





Leonard E. Hawthorne supports and is a life member of the N.A.A.C.P., has served many years and held offices on the Madison County Urban League Board and Guild, serves on the board and executive committee of the United Way of Southwest Illinois, is a life member and has served on the SIU-E Alumni Board of Directors. and has served as secretary of the 100 Black Men of Alton for several years. He is also a board member of the Elijah P. Lovejoy Memorial, and he holds honorary memberships in Phi Delta Kappa and Delta Pi Epsilon, and is a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Hawthorne grew up in East St. Louis,

IL, and after graduation from Lincoln High School, he entered Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, from which he earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Business Education, and later returned to complete certification requirements for Education Administration.

He relocated to Alton after marriage in 1971 and began his 32-year career as an educator in Alton Community Unit School District 11. He taught business subjects at Alton High and J. B. Johnson Career Development Center, and has also been teacher-coordinator for the Distributive Education work-study program, assistant principal at West Junior High and Alton High Schools, and principal at Lewis & Clark Elementary School. He retired as Title I & Special Services Administrator for the school district.

Hawthorne is trustee board secretary and finance committee chairman at Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church. He is married to Birdia Ruth Woods, and has two children, Melia L. Hawthorne and Antoine L. Lawrence.