

Family

Elbert Frank Cox was born to Johnson D. Cox and Eugenia Talbot Cox on December 5, 1895. His two brothers are Alvalon Cox and Rupert Cox. Cox's desire to gain an education and to become a teacher came from his father. Johnson D. Cox had graduated from Evansville College and had done graduate work at Indiana University. Johnson Cox served the Evansville school system for fifty years including a twenty-six year period when he served as the principal of the Third Avenue elementary school. Johnson Cox also served many roles in the community as well. He was a leader in various local organizations including the Masons and the Young Men's Christian Association. He also served as a deacon at Liberty Baptist Church for much of his life. Johnson Cox was a stern and demanding father, however he was an important source of inspiration and encouragement for his children. One of Elbert Cox's teachers at the University who had also met Johnson Cox remarked that the two shared the same favorable characteristics.