



Wake Forest University Baptist
MEDICAL CENTER

Recognizes
Nelson Malloy as a
Lifetime Achievement
Award recipient



Nelson Malloy chats with a group of youngsters.

People's Politician

Talk of Nelson Malloy's demise has always been premature. After being shot in the late 1970s, Malloy was completely paralyzed for a period. But, according to Malloy, as a result of the prayers of many people, he regained the use of his upper body. Just this past year, some thought Malloy's reign as City Council member for the North Ward was over after Malloy missed months of council meetings as a result of his near paralysis years ago. Malloy, however, made a triumphant return to City Hall on the night that council was deciding an issue key to the city's poorest residents.

That has been the theme of much of Malloy's life: coming to the rescue of the people who have no voices and often little hope.

A city native, Malloy has devoted his life to helping the homeless, welfare mothers and neighborhood organizations. In the 1970s, Malloy headed the city's Black Panther Party. Malloy often disputes the Panthers' reputation as gun-toting militants. He is most proud of the many programs he helped implement as the leader of the party. The Panthers tested more than 1,000 local people

for sickle cell disease and ran an ambulance service that carried thousands of poor people to area hospitals.

Even after being elected to the City Council in 1989, Malloy continued to fight for the disenfranchised and disabled away from City Hall. He helped organize Black Men and Women Against Crime, which held candle-light peace vigils and offered emotional support to families affected by violence. In 1995, he helped organize the Caravan to Congress to protest budget cuts affecting public housing, senior citizens and children.

On the City Council, Malloy has refused to let other council members forget about the plights of the city's poor. At budget time, he often goes to bat for programs that benefit disadvantaged groups and has gained a reputation as the conscience of the board. In 2000, Malloy introduced a resolution encouraging the governor to enact a death penalty moratorium so that capital punishment can be scrutinized to ensure it is not racially discriminatory. A majority of the City Council voted to pass the resolution.



Malloy leads a vigil in one of the city's public housing communities.