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MALISH ACCOMPLISHMENTS CITED

The citizens of Schertz, Cibolo and Universal city were saddened by the sudden and unexpected death Wednesday, Aug. 27, of their Superintendent of Schools, William Malish. Malish had served the district the past seven years, and he died at the age of 53.

William Malish was born in Taylor, attended Georgetown High School, and earned his BA and MEd degrees from Southwestern University. He began his teaching career in a two-teacher school at Macedonia in Williamson County, following which he served as teacher, coach and high school principal at Granger.

For 15 years Malish served in the capacity of Superintendent of Schools at Thrall. Harvey Johnson, school board president of the small school district at Thrall, has stated that Malish left that district because he felt he had accomplished his goals there and he chose to seek a more challenging position.

As Superintendent of schools of the then newly formed United Consolidated Independent School District in Webb County, Malish provided leadership for the favorable passage of a bond issue and tax increase and for the undertaking of plans for construction of a new district high school, unique in the state because of its largely underground construction and designation as a disaster shelter.

In 1962 Malish was invited to serve as Superintendent of Schools in the Schertz- Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District, and in July of that year he assumed the challenging task of providing educational leadership for the rapidly growing district. During his tenure as superintendent, the district grew in scholastic enrollment from over 1000 pupils to approximately 3,340; the combined teaching staff and auxiliary personnel grew from approximately 100 to 185; and valuation of the district advanced from $5,013,880 to $34,349,480 through re-evaluation, new construction and consolidation.

Also during this time, additions wee constructed to each of the existing schools in the district, and two completely new plants were constructed. The climate- controlled Northview Elementary School in Universal City and Samuel Clemens High School, a climate-controlled facility with a teaching capacity of 100 students, complete with auditorium, stadium, gymnasium, snack bar and cafeteria.

Under Malish's guidance, the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City I.S.D. passed in April 1969 a $1,500,000 bond issue for construction of additions to existing facilities and construction of the first phase of an additional new elementary school, thus assuring that future projected growth needs of the district can be met. Malish was successful in securing federal funds for the construction of a new district administrative building and guided the selection of a site adjacent to the Samuel Clemens High School for its construction.

In the area of school administration and curriculum development, Malish provided leadership for the institution of many progressive changes within the district. Among these were the provision of detailed board agenda; complete separation of the district's central office from that of the high school principal; the setting up of a tax assessor and collector's office, and institution of a district property re- evaluation, assessment and tax collection program, institution of a well-defined guidance program in the district and a co-operative program employing the professional efforts of the teaching staff through which district-wide curriculum guides were developed.

Also established under his leadership were a remedial mathematics program and a comprehensive writing program in the language arts for college-bound students. In addition, there was under study a remedial reading program and expansion of the curriculum to more satisfactorily meet the special needs of the 35 percent of non- college-bound students of the district.

Supt. Malish served as coordinator of the district's federal funding program, maintaining close liaison between the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City I.S.D., other school districts in the area, and the appropriate agencies of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Ft. Worth and Washington D.C.

Supt. Malish was an educator in the most professional sense of the word, maintaining membership in and actively participating in NEA, TSTA, TASR, AASA, Cibolo Valley Teachers Association and the Order of the Red, Red Rose. He encouraged school board membership in professional school board organizations and participation in area meetings. He kept himself current in the educational issues of the day and maintained the necessary contact with state educators and congressional leaders of both the state and nation in an effort to further the cause of sound educational legislation.

William Malish is survived by his wife, Mrs. Francis Malish; a son, Bill Malish, both of Universal City; a daughter, Mrs. Robert (Phyllis) Leschber, Austin; his father, Ed Malish, Granger; a brother, Alvis Malish, Cleburne; three sisters, Mrs. Rudolph Kropp of Granger, Mrs. Manuel Teltow of Leander and Mrs. Clifford Cawthon of Temple; and one granddaughter, Melanie Leschber.

A memorial service was held at 10 a.m., Friday, Aug. 29, at the Samuel Clemens High School with the Rev. Wilson Hill, pastor of Beitel Memorial Lutheran Church conducting the service. Services were held at 4 p.m., Friday, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Thrall and interment was in the Taylor City Cemetery.