



# ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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November 10, 2022

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## **Dr. Charles J. Martoni Veterans 2022 Service Awardee is Nathan Mallory** *Awardee to Be Recognized in Presentation Later This Month*

**PITTSBURGH** – In advance of this week’s Veterans Day holiday, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald today announced Nathan Mallory has been named the awardee of the 2022 Dr. Charles J. Martoni Veterans Service Award. The award recognizes individuals who continue their service to our country following their discharge from military service.

“When Dr. Martoni completed his military service, he returned home where he dedicated the rest of his life to serving his community,” said Fitzgerald. “That dedication benefitted all of us and set a standard for so many others, including Nathan Mallory. His nomination stood out for many reasons, but his professional and personal service to fellow veterans really exemplifies what this award was intended to showcase. We’re excited to celebrate Nathan and his many contributions.”

Nathan enlisted in the United States Air Force in 2000 and served his country in numerous positions for six years including Security Forces Team Leader, Combat Arms Competition Team Leader, and Boy Scout Troop Leader. He separated from the service after six years, honorably. He quickly adapted to his new life outside of the military and made it his personal mission to help people in less fortunate situations.

Nathan Mallory is the Facilities Manager at Veterans Leadership Program where he is responsible for safe and secure supportive housing for veterans in our region. He manages 77 properties for veterans experiencing homelessness that span across 30 counties. Not just a manager, Nate is well known for his passion to help those in need, connecting them with services and resources so that they can improve their lives.

Nate has served as a Platoon Leader for the Mission Continues, a program that seeks to improve educational resources, tackle food insecurities, and foster neighborhood identity throughout the nation. He has led the charge on 10 community parks and playgrounds, four national service deployments, and 90 days of individual service days. He has dedicated more than 200 total days of volunteer service to individuals in need.

Nate has also fostered a relationship between the Steel City Softball League (SCSL) and the veteran community. SCSL is the area’s longest running LGBTQ+ sports organization focused on providing supporters a place to play sports without fear of discrimination. Since the repeal of “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell,” there has been a dramatic increase in veterans and current service members who identify as LGBTQ+ and are looking for social support. Last year, Nate was instrumental in creating the first and, to date, the only veterans’ team. It includes veterans, or individuals who work in the veteran space, and supporters of the LGBTQ+ community.

“I could have easily provided 40 pages of reasons why Nathan Mallory is deserving of this award,” said John Kaufman, who nominated Nate for the award. “This is a small example of the post-service life that Nate continues to live each day. He is most deserving of this award and it was my extreme honor to nominate him.”

Nominations submitted to Veterans Services were reviewed by a panel led by Veterans Services' which included a member of the Martoni family. The finalists were then presented to County Executive Fitzgerald for review and selection.

"It was heartening to see the many nominations submitted for this award and to see what we already knew, that so many people who served in the military continue serving their community after their discharge," said Timothy Martin, LSW, Chief Veterans Affairs Officer for Allegheny County. "Continuing service takes an extraordinary person who holds patriotism, love, honor, duty, and loyalty to the highest regard, and Nate exemplifies that idea. It has been my privilege to work with him in a professional capacity, and to see him recognized in this way is extremely rewarding."

Nate was notified of his selection as the 2022 Dr. Charles J. Martoni Veterans Service Award winner last week:

"It is an honor to be recognized for my continued service, even after separation from the armed forces. To imagine 15 years ago when I moved to Pittsburgh that I would have worked alongside so many awesome change agents and mentors.

"The people that I've met that refuse the status quo, community members that have long standing dedications as representatives of their space, the people I've seen struggle and recover to a level of prosperity, the organizations that manage with compassion and take care of issues otherwise not recognized by mainstream services, the awareness of injustice and the need for advocacy... I would have never thought I would be as fortunate to be a part of a community with a true sense of belonging.

"We all have a story and as I grow as a person, I am excited to see what is ahead. I have three teenage boys at home that are watching, and I hope that the legacy of service will be remembered long after me. 'Do a good turn daily.'"

#### **About the Dr. Charles J. Martoni Veterans Service Award**

*On November 10, 2021, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and former Chief Veterans Affairs Officer Dwight Boddorf announced the creation of the Allegheny County Veterans Service Award. The award was created to recognize those individuals who continue their service to our country following their discharge. In tribute to his military service and long and distinguished service to our community, the award was named in honor of former County Council Member Dr. Charles Martoni. The first award was presented to his family posthumously in tribute to his service.*

Read more [about the award](#).

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