

Clem Malone

June 22, 1910- September 7, 1994

Elected 1948 4 years

(Election declared unconstitutional- Malone refused to run again and was ousted in 1950)

Clem Malone came to southern Nevada as a structural steel worker on the Hoover Dam. He remained in the area and became embroiled in the politics and development of Las Vegas. He served one term as Clark County commissioner and operated a casino and hotel in Las Vegas.

Malone was born on June 22, 1910 in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. He moved to Nevada in 1930 and worked on the dam. Following its completion, Malone went to work on the Bay Bridge and the Oakland Tunnel in northern California. During World War II, he served in the Navy.

Following the war, Malone returned to Nevada and went to work for US Senator Berkley L. Bunker. He became very active in the Democratic Party. Malone remained close to Cliff Jones who served as Lieutenant Governor from 1945-1955, a friendship that began when they worked on the Hoover Dam together. Malone owned a ranch near Bonanza Village.

In 1946, Malone ran for the Clark County Commission. He focused on his time in southern Nevada and promised to help keep the Las Vegas Army Field open. He lost in the primary that year. In 1948, Malone once again sought a seat on the commission. He easily won a seat on the commission in that election. Malone's time on the commission was filled with contention. In 1950, he was charged with soliciting bribes from George Crockett at the airport. Malone claimed that James Cashman, Frank Gusewelle, and A.E. Cahlan were setting him up.

In 1950, Malone filed to run for governor. He decided to run for governor when he found out that he would have to run again for his commission seat because the election was declared unconstitutional. He and fellow commissioner, George Franklin decided to seek higher office, with Malone running for governor and Franklin for US Senate against Pat McCarran. Malone lost the primary to Vail Pittman. He lost his commission seat following a lawsuit on May 18, 1951.

Malone worked as an electrician and opened United Electric Company in 1946. He, along with others took over the Nevada Biltmore in 1949. He renamed it the Shamrock Hotel and operated it for a number of years. He also worked to develop his ranch into a housing development. In 1949, plans appeared for the development called Westside Park and designed by famed architect, Paul Revere Williams. The development was placed on hold for several years. In 1954, it was completed after Malone sold the land to a developer and was called Berkeley Square.

Malone filed bankruptcy in 1954 after he lost his stake in the Shamrock Hotel. He obtained approval for a casino to be located adjacent to Berkeley Square in 1955, but it was never completed. During the 1970s and 1980s, he worked with Cliff Jones opening casino-hotels in Sri Lanka and Liberia. Malone retired to Las Vegas in 1990. He died on September 7, 1994.