

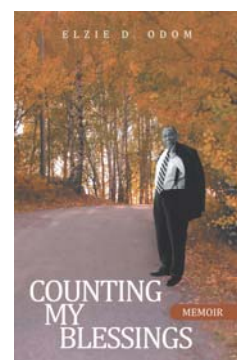
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City of Arlington's first African American Mayor Releases Memoir Celebration Scheduled for December 30, 2011

ARLINGTON, TEXAS - Elzie Odom, the City of Arlington's first African American Mayor, announces the release of his memoir entitled, "Counting My Blessings", a historic compilation of his life, spanning eight decades through key milestones in our nation's history.

An official book [launch celebration](#) is scheduled for Friday, December 30, 2011, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Elzie Odom Athletic Center, 1601 Northeast Green Oaks Boulevard, in Arlington. The event is free. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase on site for \$12.



Odom, now 82, the descendant of a slave, wrote "Counting My Blessings" to show how a life of gratitude, courage and determination multiplies to produce blessings, despite obstacles.

The book includes a first-hand view of Odom's ascent from a small community of Shankleville, in Southeast Texas, to become mayor (1997 – 2003) of what is now the third largest city in North Texas.

"This memoir is not about my accomplishments", Odom said. "It's about what God accomplished through me as I surrendered my life to him."

SUPPLEMENTAL MEDIA INFO (To access the following info, press CTRL then click on each item below)

- [KEY LESSONS FROM THE BOOK](#)
- [ELZIE ODOM'S PHOTO](#)
- [ELZIE ODOM'S HALL OF MAYORS BIO](#)

The book was published by AuthorHouse and is available online for \$12 at Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com.

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