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Mandela's wish for his fallen friend

FORMER President Nelson Mandela says it is his wish that a fitting memorial is established in honour of his friend, ANC stalwart Walter Sisulu, who died this week at the age of 90.

"I don't think it is sufficient for us to have a statue of him somewhere," Mandela said. "I want him to be remembered properly. I want a place where everybody will be able to see that this is a memorial to Walter Sisulu and to pay tribute to his life."

In an interview with the Sunday Times this week, Mandela told of his 62-year relationship with the liberation hero who served as his mentor.

He said Sisulu had refused to take up the prominent positions on offer in the government and in

Parliament when the ANC had taken power. As a result, he had not received the international accolades and recognition he had deserved.

Mandela said he intended raising funds to build a memorial to Sisulu and that he wanted to set up a scholarship in his name.

● Sisulu will be buried on Saturday at Creosus Cemetery in Soweto, Johannesburg. The funeral service will be held at the Orlando Stadium.

On Tuesday, memorial services will take place at the Pretoria City Hall at noon and at the Samaj Centre in Cape Town from 6pm. There will also be a service on Thursday at Uncle Tom's Place in Soweto, starting at 6pm. — *Ranjeni Munusamy*

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OLD FRIENDS: Former President Nelson Mandela and his wife, Graça Machel, at the service for ANC leader Walter Sisulu, held at the Johannesburg City Hall. Picture: SYDNEY SESHIREDI

Leon gets a lashing at Sisulu service

JUSTICE and Constitutional Development Minister Penuell Maduna used the memorial service for ANC stalwart Walter Sisulu at a packed Johannesburg City Hall on Friday to take a swipe at DA leader Tony Leon.

"I can't understand how someone like Leon can just stand up in Parliament and accuse this government of failing the majority of our people, who were denied basic freedoms by the apartheid regime," said Maduna, to ululation and whistling.

"Today most of our people have access to electricity, education, health and clean water due to the dedication to the struggle of people like Sisulu and others yet Leon says we are failing our people," he said. — *Dingilizwe Mkhizi*