



Speech by

## BILL D'ARCY, MLA

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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Hansard 13 April 1998

### MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

#### Death of Mr D. J. Sherrington

**Mr D'ARCY** (Woodridge—ALP) (9.53 a.m.): I rise to express my condolences to the Sherrington family. I am the only member who served with Doug Sherrington in the 1972-74 Parliament. Doug was a big man in every way. I agree with most of the sentiments about his career that have been expressed by members on all sides of the House. Being a big man, he was a man of principle. One certainly knew his views. The Minister for Tourism, Sport and Racing said that he was a passionate speaker; he was a passionate speaker both inside and outside the House.

Party room discussions have been mentioned and that is where some of Doug's best contributions often came. On many occasions he had to convince many of his colleagues of the right of his arguments and his booming voice would often overcome their arguments. It has been mentioned that he was Opposition Whip, which I was very grateful for on many occasions, particularly on the several occasions that I was thrown out of the House over a conservation issue. If it had not been for Doug's support, I would have spent a lot more time in exile than I did, because the matter was very serious. Doug gave me some very judicious advice about cooling certain matters.

Doug Sherrington was a friend of mine, at the political level, the factional level and through the Trades Hall group and the old Queensland Central Executive. I agree totally with the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Racing that we would not have lost the seat of Salisbury in 1974 if Doug had stood for Parliament. However, he retired as a member of Parliament in that year. He continued to make a contribution in all areas. I appeared on many platforms with him. Someone mentioned the Barrier Reef, which was a major issue in the 1970s, an issue that he took up. As most members know, my pet fetish has always been coastal management and Doug was a great help to me in that area. He supported me in the defence of many coastal areas.

Doug Sherrington's contribution to Queensland was so wide and varied that today Queenslanders are still reaping the benefit of the work that Doug did, particularly in the conservation field. Doug's wife Edith predeceased him. During the latter period of his life, he would often visit my electoral area, as he lived nearby in Sunnybank. He was a great contributor to the electorate. Doug was very active in every campaign up until the last couple, and he worked hard for the local area. I pass my condolences on to the family, and I acknowledge his brother Jack and some of his daughters who are in the gallery today.

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