



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 6 June 2007

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Death of Hon. TJ Burns AO

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.42 am): As the House would be aware, on Monday I offered the family of the Hon. Tom Burns AO a state funeral in his honour. His wife Angela has accepted the offer and the funeral will occur at St John's Cathedral in Ann Street, Brisbane on Tuesday, 12 June at noon.

Tom's sudden passing is a great loss and I know many people will want to attend his service to farewell one of the great Queenslanders of our time. That is why this morning I am advising the House of this.

Tom made an outstanding contribution to public life in Queensland and he did it with intelligence and a sense of humour. He is recognised nationally and internationally for his historic role in helping forge stronger links between China and Australia. Of course, he served more than 20 years in this place in a variety of roles, including as Deputy Premier from 7 December 1989 to 19 February 1996.

The family has asked that, in lieu of floral tributes, donations can be made in Tom's memory to the RSPCA. Messages of farewell to Tom can be left on a web site he himself established to remember loved ones: [www.obituariesonline.com.au](http://www.obituariesonline.com.au). I repeat that the state funeral will be held at St John's Cathedral in Ann Street, Brisbane on Tuesday, 12 June at noon.