




Speech By
Hon. Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Adermann, Mrs J

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection) (3.57 pm): I rise to reflect on and celebrate the life of my friend Joan Nell Adermann. Joan was born on Anzac Day in 1931 and she passed away on 29 March this year. The great thing is that she is now with her Lord and my Lord and saviour. My wife and I have known Joan since we first moved to the Sunshine Coast because we worshipped together at the same church. There are so many wonderful stories to share about Joan, but I want to focus on two today.

Many members would know that Joan not only shares my faith but also my politics. She was the wife of Evan Adermann and the daughter-in-law of Charles Adermann, who between them represented the people of north Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast and the South Burnett as the federal members for Fisher and Fairfax from 1949 through to 1990—41 years of representation. During that whole time, Joan was a part of it. Joan's daughter Jenny worked with me for the first two years upon my election in 2009 and her brother John, who is in the gallery today, works for my good mate Neil Symes, the member for Lytton.

I will never forget walking into one of the first National Party meetings for Nicklin in Nambour and being confronted by two very formidable women. One was Joan Adermann, and the other was Peg Cyphers. I will share a quote from John's eulogy that he provided at the funeral recently. John said, 'A couple of weeks ago the Prime Minister referred to herself as a strong and feisty woman. I think my mother fits that description as well, but the difference is she didn't have to tell you she was; she just was.' That is the kind of woman Joan was. My sympathies go to her good friend Peg, who has lost not only a friend but also a neighbour and certainly a confidant. I pass on my best wishes to her.

The other story I want to share is that Joan was a fantastic support for my wife at a time when we went into politics. It was a struggle—the idea of basically being a single mum at home with now five kids. Joan did that, too, yet she did it in a much tougher way, back in a time when her husband would have been on the road for many, many weeks at a time travelling down to Canberra. And, yes, she, too, had five kids. So, Joan, we thank you for all the support that you have given to Taryn and me. I extend my sympathies to Joan's children—to Joanne and Jenny and to David, Peter and John—and to their many grandchildren as well. Joan, we miss you but we know you are in a far better place.