




Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk**

**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 October 2014

**MOTION OF CONDOLENCE**

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.06 pm): As has already been noted, the granddaughter of Clive Hughes serves in this parliament as the member for Broadwater, so I want to begin by passing on to her and her family the thoughts of the Labor opposition.

Clive Hughes was elected as the Liberal Party member for Kurilpa at the 1960 election. Unlike many who are elected to this House, he was one of those who was never defeated but chose not to recontest his seat at the 1974 election. Clive Hughes entered state parliament after representing the Yeronga ward in the Brisbane City Council from 1955. In all, he fought and won seven council and state elections.

Madam Speaker, it is notable that in his first speech here Clive Hughes spoke of his concern for the disabled and elderly who were not able to fully participate in the community. He spoke of how such people could be cut off from society and experience loneliness, frustration and economic insecurity and added that there was a real need to tap into their time and skills. In a comment somewhat ahead of his time he said, 'Economically and psychologically, the present system of early and compulsory retirement is wasteful and unsettling.' He said that he did not believe in relegating such members of our community to the 'human scrap heap'. He wanted them to continue contributing to their community. In his inaugural speech Clive Hughes also outlined his concerns about alcohol abuse and the dangers of drink driving.

Clive Hughes did not recontest Kurilpa at the 1974 election. He said that after 20 years in political life at local and state levels he felt it was time to make way for younger people. He also noted he had suffered some ill health and was even knocked down by a car while crossing the street outside Parliament House. In his final speech in this House he expressed the feelings and frustrations that all of us have felt at some stage, especially in our time here. He said, 'As a backbencher I have met many challenges and frustrations.' He added—

I think we all need a degree of tenacity and purpose. We have to keep plugging away to achieve what we want to do and what we feel we have to do to right the wrongs to help people we represent.

He also noted that in the Queensland parliament politics was played very hard—nothing has changed over the years—yet he made special mention of the friendships he had made with honourable members on both sides of the chamber. As he put it, 'We have kept our politics in the House, and that has made life both inside and outside that much easier.' In his final speech Clive Hughes also expressed the feelings that all of us share when he said, 'It has been a privilege and honour to be the member for Kurilpa.'

Madam Speaker, it is certainly a privilege and an honour to serve in this House, and today I express the appreciation of the parliamentary Labor Party for the service of Clive Hughes and extend to his family our deepest condolences.