




Speech By
Glenn Butcher

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

Record of Proceedings, 6 September 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Creed, Mrs L

 **Mr BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (10.52 pm): I rise tonight to pay tribute to the life of a well-loved, well-known remarkable lady in my electorate who recently passed away after a short illness. Leonie Creed was the eldest daughter of Ford and Ninette Dunning born on 16 August 1943, exactly 74 years to the day of her funeral. She attended the Central Girls School in Denison Street, Rockhampton and then the Rockhampton Girls Grammar School.

Leonie married George Creed on 5 September 1964 at St Paul's Cathedral in Rockhampton and they started married life in a half-built home at The Old Station. The birth of their three children followed—Elizabeth in October 1965, Andrew in 1969 and Ron in 1970. When the depression in the beef industry struck in the seventies, George took on a labourer's job at Queensland Alumina in Gladstone and Leonie embarked on a teacher aide career at Mount Larcom State School, a position she held for 28 years. When George became interested in local government politics, Leonie was the rock behind his career, always immaculately dressed and hence described by many as 'a true lady'.

She was the pillar and champion behind 26 highly successful air shows conducted at The Old Station, commonly known as The Old Station Fly In, over a period of 30 years. This is where the first seeds of a helicopter rescue service for this region were sown. Subsequently over those years, these events have raised over half a million dollars for the Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service and other local charities. It was always a special event and a joy for Leonie to hand over cheques to these charities after the fly in event. Leonie served as a foundation director of the Helicopter Rescue service and subsequently remained in that role for 16 years. On 24 May 2013 she was awarded the prestigious Lions Club International Ray Phippard Fellowship in recognition of her exceptional service to the community. She was also highly acclaimed far and wide for her amazing country style cooking.

It was indeed fitting that Leonie left her funeral service in a helicopter. She was flanked by a guard of honour around the circuit road as the jeep taking her on her last road journey made its way to deliver her to her final flight. Leonie is survived by her children, Elizabeth, Andrew and Ron, and their partners, Chris, Nancy and Helen, and nine grandchildren, Josephine, Jack, Mellissa, Thomas, William, Jacob, Alicia, Samantha and Matthew. Leonie was laid to rest beside her beloved husband, George. They are now reunited on the hill overlooking Langmorn Station, the land where their hearts truly belonged.