




Speech By
Lachlan Millar

MEMBER FOR GREGORY

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MOTION OF CONDOLENCE: SIMPSON, MR GL

 **Mr MILLAR** (Gregory—LNP) (2.47 pm): I rise to pay my respects to Gordon Simpson and his family. Gordon will always be remembered as a bloke who spoke his mind. He was a fierce rural advocate and, most importantly, always spoke and acted with conviction. I always enjoyed my time with Mr Simpson. As described by the previous speaker, the member for Glass House, Gordon always took the time to help people coming up in the party and to offer advice. He was someone whom I always loved to be around. He had a positive attitude. Everything was always good. He was someone I really enjoyed being with. Gordon Simpson was always there to help out and give advice, and he always put in the hard yards to get results. He would always say that if you put the hard yards in you will get results.

As a farmer from the Mallee who moved north to the Sunshine Coast with his family, Gordon was always going to make his mark in farming and politics in this great state. He was as fit as a mallee bull, as well. He was one of the fittest men of his age I have ever seen. In his late seventies and early eighties, he was always active, bouncing out of the car, bouncing into the campaign room, getting things going and putting a positive feel and a positive mood into the room when you were trying to get things done.

I first met Gordon when I was helping Alex Somlyay in the federal seat of Fairfax. I was put in charge of helping in the Nambour area. Gordon was a loyal man to the party and always very active in that western part of Fairfax around the Nambour area. He was supposed to be my right-hand man but, more to the point, I was his right-hand man in that campaign. Gordon was always there to help me with things such as organising booth workers and getting the signs up, even down to the finer details of making sure that the booth packs were packed and marked correctly. He was a man of detail, which I think came from his engineering background. He liked detail and he liked things to work.

I always enjoyed my time with Gordon. He was a passionate man who loved his family, his community and his state. As the member for Maroochydore recently said, her dad was never half-hearted about anything he did. He lived life at a full gallop, which is what we all loved about Gordon. He was always ready to help. He was an absolute champion who will be sorely missed. I know he is looking down on us from above.