



Speech By  
**Bruce Saunders**


**MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 September 2019

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Weber, Mr T, OAM**

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (7.09 pm): The day of 19 June was a very sad day for the Maryborough electorate because it was the passing of a Labor legend, a man called Ted Weber. Ted was one of the great members of the Australian Labor Party in Maryborough. Ted worked tirelessly for the Maryborough community. I first met Ted when I was a young man working at the local radio station. When Ted came in to do his Rugby League talk, the boss said to me, 'Watch this bloke. He can be a bit fiery.' Ted was fiery but he was also a great community man.

Ted Weber gave his life for the Maryborough community. In 2007 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to Rugby League in the Wide Bay and also Australia. Ted was very passionate about TAFE. For years he pushed TAFE in Maryborough and he pushed it right around Queensland. He was passionate about education, making sure that the future generation had the education that Ted did not have. He was a great man. He was a very fiery man. I had many arguments with Ted Weber about things that happened.

Ted was a Labor candidate. He lost the election and then he stood for council and became a very good member for the Maryborough community. A lot of fine things that we have seen around Maryborough such as the streetscapes were all started when Ted was on the council. He was a true Labor legend. He was a staunch unionist. He joined the union the day he started work. I believe that right up until he died in June this year Ted was still a member of his union. You do not see people like Ted Weber too often these days. He was committed to his community, he was committed to the Labor Party and he was committed to his family and to Australian Rugby League.

One of the things that Ted did that changed the lives of a lot of people was he helped organise the plaques at Suncorp Stadium that contain the names of 789 men who played for Queensland. He researched every name to go on those plaques. Ted was a bit disappointed in me one day when he found out that I was a St George supporter. He was not too happy with me.

The community of Maryborough owes Ted a lot. He was very passionate about the community. On behalf of the Maryborough ALP and the community of Maryborough, I would like to send our condolences to his family. We are definitely missing a great man in the Wide Bay and in Queensland and Australia for that matter.