




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 21 August 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Friis, Mr DG

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (7.01 pm): I join the member for Glass House in acknowledging Joyce Newton. She might have been on the opposite side of politics to me, but Joyce and Greg are good people and I want to particularly acknowledge the wonderful way the member for Glass House is continuing to acknowledge Joyce's contribution to the community. I also acknowledge in the gallery Bill Feldman, the former member for Caboolture. He is a strong member of the Queensland Police Union and a former police officer. I hope he is enjoying his retirement—

Mr Powell: And a member of the Glass House electorate now.

Mr RYAN: He is, yes. He is keeping the member for Glass House on his toes.

On a more sombre note, I want to pay tribute to the life of David George Friis. David Friis was the principal of Tullawong State High School and he died very unexpectedly last month. He was an exceptional man and a great educator but, most importantly, he was a great believer in the power of education and the effect that education can have on a person's life and how it is a game changer for many people who come from a disadvantaged background.

David was always very welcoming to me when I attended Tullawong State High School. You could feel the passion that David had for his students and for opportunity and the power of education. I always used to smile when I went to Tullawong State High School. David lived near the Caboolture golf course, and when you live next to a golf course you generally collect a golf buggy along the way. David used to have the golf buggy at the school. Rather than walking around the school, you would race around in the golf buggy. I think David contributed to the extra grey hair and wrinkles that I have because he certainly took no prisoners when he was racing around the high school in his golf buggy.

David's funeral was held at Tullawong State School and it is probably the biggest funeral I have ever seen. The school hall was packed, and I think there were probably a couple of thousand people there, which is a sign of not only David's impact on the community but also the respect that his community had for him. I want to refer to some of the things the celebrant said during David's funeral service, and I think this is relevant to all of those people who have an impact on our lives. The celebrant asked at the beginning, 'Do you know where you were or how you felt or what you thought when you learnt that David Friis, the Big Marn, Friisy, or Sir had died?' I do, and I think that is a sign of not only the contribution that David made but also the impact he had on my life. David, you will be missed, mate. Thank you for your contribution to the people of Caboolture. I know a lot of kids will miss you.