



Speech By  
**Amanda Camm**


**MEMBER FOR WHITSUNDAY**

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**MOTION OF CONDOLENCE**

**Mulherin, Hon. TS**

 **Ms CAMM** (Whitsunday—LNP) (3.05 pm): It is with humbling respect that I rise today to offer my condolences for a man who was approachable, intelligent, passionate and a true gentleman who was also values based. Tim Mulherin's service to the people of Mackay, our state and this parliament occurred not just in his 20 years as the member for Mackay but also more recently as a very valued member of his community. Post his retirement from this House, Tim was a mentor and continued to be a friend and strong advocate for our region.

The testimonial dinner that as a council we hosted in March 2015 with Tim and his former colleague and adversary Ted Malone, the former member for Mirani, is a night that I will never forget. It was a night of laughter, stories, some political puns and insights. In fact, at times it was what they did not say but the wink, the nod and the laugh that said more. They both shared a commitment to their electorates and communities, being hard working, visible and always approachable as local members. I have heard many stories from current and past members, particularly in the past two weeks since I have entered this parliament, and they have contained only fond memories of Tim Mulherin. I thank members from both sides who have shared those stories.

Long after Tim retired many of my former council colleagues and myself would seek his insights or help from his little black book. He would always get back to you with advice on how to advocate on an issue. He was never afraid to pick up the phone and give you further advice on how he thought you should correct yourself or improve.

Tim's community service to the region continued through his leadership as chair of the Mackay Hospital and Health Service, as mentioned today, and as deputy chair of the Harrup Park Country Club Board of Directors. We know that he worked tirelessly with the hospital board and staff to ensure the hospital was prepared for the impacts of COVID-19, even during his treatment. Right up until the end he continued to conduct meetings and stayed abreast of the latest developments, keeping many of us in the community informed.

During his time at Harrup Park Tim implemented a new standard of governance and professionalism. I know his contribution is valued by the board, the executive and the staff. His continued advocacy for the Great Barrier Reef Arena was relentless. I know how pleased he would be with the announcement of \$10 million to fund that infrastructure. Locals will recognise that as a part of his ongoing legacy. Tim was passionate about local sports and the younger generation having access and opportunity. He was much loved and well respected across many codes, particularly hockey.

Tim and I shared a passion for regional economic development. We would have lengthy conversations about the opportunities for tropical health, agriculture and biodiversity. Although we were from different political persuasions, we would speak for hours about innovation and diversification opportunities as we were both critical thinkers.

My husband, Brendan, and I share a connection with Erin and Tim, which is our love of Ireland—where my husband is from—Irish heritage and history. Long into the night Erin and Brendan would talk about Irish history, while Tim and I would talk politics. We have enjoyed lengthy evenings swapping stories or our travels. I will always consider Tim a friend. It was great to see Rory working on the Mackay booth during the campaign and Liam handing out pamphlets in Brisbane. I know their dad would be very proud.

Tim sacrificed much family time for his service to the Mackay region and Queensland. The man should be well acknowledged: I did not cry in my maiden speech but he has brought a tear to my eye today. It was evident that he was a devoted husband to Erin and father to Declan, Liam and Rory. His love for his family, the Mackay community, politics and the party that he served will always be honoured and respected. Vale.