



Speech By Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 18 June 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Wolfenden, Ms K; Losberg, Mr R

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (6.29 pm): Tonight I would like to pay tribute to the life of two outstanding citizens from the Caboolture region, Karen Wolfenden and Rick Losberg. They were two community champions, two people who contributed a lot to the community and also to their respective activities in the community. I will speak first in respect of Karen Wolfenden.

She was a true community champion, a true hero and a one-of-a-kind contributor to our community. She passed away last month. She was a key player in the Caboolture Little Athletics Centre and also went on to serve Little Athletics at higher levels like the Little Athletics Queensland board. She was a Caboolture person through and through. She went to Caboolture State School and Caboolture State High School. She became a nurse and she worked as a teacher aide at Caboolture State School for many years. Of course, the stories she could tell the kids from her time as a student at that school certainly kept them involved and interested in attending school.

I know that people at the Little Athletics Centre at Caboolture dearly miss her as does the Caboolture State School community and the broader community. I would like to pass on my condolences to her husband, Kevin, and the rest of the family. In paying tribute to Karen, I acknowledge that the oval that the Caboolture Little Athletics Centre is based on was named Wolfenden Oval because of Karen's and her family's contribution to Little Athletics, particularly her father, Ross. I pay tribute to Karen. I know that she will be dearly missed.

I also pay tribute to Rick Losberg. Rick was another outstanding citizen. He was a police officer based at Caboolture for many, many years. We used to attend Neighbourhood Watch meetings together when he was the district crime prevention coordinator 10 years ago. We often used to pass the questions from one another. If they were tricky questions, I would give them to Ricky, and Ricky would look after me with the easy questions as well.

Rick continued to serve his community after his retirement from the police in 2010. He was on the board of the local PCYC. I know that he helped out a lot at Caboolture softball where his wife was very involved. Rick also continued to serve the community and police by being a part of the Queensland Retired Police Association.

Rick will be dearly missed as well. I know that not only the police family but also his family are very sad about his passing and certainly I am as well. To Karen and Rick, I say we will miss you and thank you for your outstanding contribution to Caboolture and the people who call it home.