




Speech By
Stephen Andrew

MEMBER FOR MIRANI

Record of Proceedings, 2 December 2020

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Mulherin, Hon. TS

 **Mr ANDREW** (Mirani—PHON) (3.50 pm): I rise in support of the condolence motion for the Hon. Tim Mulherin. Mr Speaker, I heard the words you said earlier about Mr Mulherin being an exemplary parliamentarian. He was also an exemplar of the community. He was very widely respected by all the leaders in the community, by decades of mayors and councillors. It is obvious to see how much he impacted the community just by the emotions of the member for Whitsunday. He always respectfully referred to my grandfather as Uncle Cedric. They shared some lively and very happy times together. It was because of Tim's honesty and decency and the way he treated everyone with respect that the South Sea islander people always got a mention. I will always say that about him. However, when I was elected to the 56th Parliament, he did take me aside and say, 'Stephen, we have to have a talk about this One Nation thing.'

Tim was always an honest and fair man. It does not matter where we met each other—whether it was in the street—he would always say to me, 'How's your grandfather, Steve? How's your father? Make sure you say hello to them for me.' He had that deep connection with everyone in the community. He was like a family member. On my daughter's 13th birthday, he was in the Creperie Restaurant in Mackay standing there on his own and I said, 'Mate, come and sit down while we cut the cake and sing happy birthday.' So he came and sat down with me, but I had no sooner put cake on his plate than he said, 'That's great. Happy birthday, Jorja. Now, Steve, what about that question in estimates about the base hospital?'

He was always straight down the line. He would always get whatever he had to say off his chest, but he would do it with respect and decency to everyone he ever met. I had the utmost—utmost—respect for Tim. I cannot imagine what his family is going through and the sadness they feel. He was so widely known and so widely loved by the community. Like I said, every elder I know in every walk of life has had nothing bad to say about that man. To Erin and his sons and his sister and his brothers, I offer my deepest sympathy and condolences from me, from the Andrew family and from the South Sea islander community on this sad occasion.