



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SOUTH BRISBANE

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MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Pegg, Mr D

 **Dr MacMAHON** (South Brisbane—Grn) (4.49 pm): I would like to share my condolences with the family and friends of Duncan Pegg on behalf of myself, the member for Maiwar and the Queensland Greens. Duncan and I only shared this chamber for a few short months—indeed, too short—but beyond parliament we crossed paths at many multicultural and community events over the years and I saw up close his commitment to his community. He was much loved by those he served. His electorate of Stretton is a very special part of Queensland that he served with care, attention and commitment, which I am sure the newly elected member of Stretton will carry on.

My colleague, the member for Maiwar, has reflected that while he and Duncan had not spent much time here working together directly, Duncan was always eager to take a moment to talk about the political issues of the day and especially issues where they shared common ground. He was warm, genuine, collegiate and enthusiastic about his work in parliament and it is such a sad loss for Queensland politics. I also want to share some words from some of our Greens colleagues who had the pleasure of crossing paths with Duncan on the campaign trail. Claire Garton writes—

Duncan was a strong advocate and supporter of the community in his electorate of Stretton, and was taken way too soon by the cruelty of cancer. Duncan was highly respected by so many because he worked hard for the local community, right where it matters. He showed that when politicians listen to and advocate for the people they represent, the people express their appreciation at the ballot box. Duncan was a politician for the people. My heart is with his family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time. No-one deserves to have their life taken so early.

From Andrea Wildin—

I met Duncan during the 2020 State election when I was a candidate for Stretton. Being a wheelchair user and the only woman, and my first time as a candidate, I was a bit nervous, but Duncan and I quickly found common ground and became friends. I liked his old school manners he could bring on when he wanted to, (he introduced me to his parents and brothers during the election too and I could see where he got his charm from) his sense of humour when things got tense was really helpful, but most of all— I liked that he didn't treat me any differently even though I used a wheelchair. He saw me as just another person, but on wheels. It was refreshing and unusual. I appreciated him very much for that.

We did discuss his diagnosis. And we discussed mine. We cried together. Then we pulled ourselves together and got on with the election. I was sad to say goodbye.

In closing, it is a tragedy to lose someone so young to such a tough disease and I can only imagine the sadness that many in here feel today. I know this experience and Duncan's passing will strengthen the resolve of all of us in here who carry the responsibility of the state to create a Queensland that is compassionate and caring, where everyone, regardless of your life stage, gets the love and support they need. Vale, Duncan Pegg.