



Speech By  
**Andrew Powell**


**MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE**

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**MOTION OF CONDOLENCE**

**Sullivan, Mr JH**

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (9.43 am): I too rise to acknowledge the service of Jonathan Harold Sullivan, Jon. Jon was not the first Sullivan I had the privilege of meeting. The first Sullivan I met was actually his wife, Carryn, when I was working in the then department of the premier and cabinet and subsequently in the department of child safety and found myself having to brief Carryn on a regular basis around ministerial forums and various other goings-on within the government. Indeed, he was not the second Sullivan I met. That was his sister Jan when I knocked on her door in a back street of Woodford in the election campaign of 2008-09. I will never forget it. We remind ourselves of it every time we catch up. She said, 'Do you know who I am?' I said, 'No.' She explained, 'So you can write in that little black book in your pocket that this is a door you probably don't want to knock on again because you will never get my vote.' I recall saying something along the lines of, 'That may well be the case but when I am your member I look forward to representing you as much as those who do vote for me.' As a result, ever since and every time we meet, we share a hug, a laugh and a story or two about our local patch of Woodford.

Jon was actually the third member of the Sullivan family that I came across. Despite him being a former member for the seat of Glass House, which was subsequently renamed 'Caboolture' for a period—and despite the fact, as others have already shared, that Jon won the seat from a real national local legend in Bill Newton—it was not until I was elected in 2009 that I came in contact with Jon as the then federal member for Longman. I am not going to lie—sorry, mislead parliament: Jon and I had completely opposing political views. In fact, I worked very hard and very successfully to depose Jon with one of my then staff, a young bloke members will all know as Wyatt Roy. But Jon and I shared a mutual love for our communities. When I was in Canberra—I seem to recall it was in 2009, possibly 2010—lobbying my then federal colleagues for a few things around the electorate, he arranged a meeting with the then federal infrastructure and transport minister, one Anthony Albanese, to discuss the state of the D'Aguilar Highway and to try to secure federal funding. We did not achieve that under the then Rudd government—this was something that Wyatt Roy and the coalition government subsequently delivered—but I will never forget that he took the time to line up that meeting, attend it with me and put forward the case for federal investment in a state highway.

Post his political career, Jon and I were known to share a beer and even a laugh at local events while enjoying a band or simply just being in our community among salt-of-the-earth locals, but please do not tell anyone we did that! To Carryn, his daughters and his extended family, my sympathies. I know he is dreadfully missed in our shared community.