




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENTS

Lovelace, Ms N OAM

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (2.52 pm): Last week I had the honour of attending the funeral of Norma Lovelace OAM. I have spoken before in the parliament about Norma because she gave so much to Queensland having lived across the length and breadth of Queensland during her life. I thank the Oxley CWA, especially Bronwyn and Sally, for helping to furnish some of the facts for this speech because so much of what she achieved was pre the internet.

Norma was born in rural Victoria. She was an only child who really loved sport, especially tennis when she was little. She also became a keen golfer, along with her husband, John, as she came into her later years. One of her claims to fame in the golfing space was working with a young Karrie Webb.

Norma and her young family—she had two daughters: Wendy, who is a disability rights advocate in her own right, and Karen—lived in many regional communities throughout Queensland. I understand she joined the CWA in a small town near Dalby many years ago. As I said, she was a proud mum to Wendy and Karen. When her girls grew up and settled in Brisbane, Norma and her husband, John, settled in Brisbane, too, where they joined our local Oxley CWA. What a boon she was. Norma served in many roles for the CWA, including as the archivist at a state level for around 10 years. As a result, if people google 'Queensland CWA' they will often find Norma quoted because she was a natural researcher and a keeper of stories.

She was a sought after guest speaker and in 2012 she was awarded her OAM. She was awarded the Queensland Country Women's Association Country Woman of the Year in 1988 and she sat on the board for the associated Country Women's Association from 2004 until 2010. Under Norma's watchful eye and alongside a wonderful cohort of women, the Oxley CWA was hugely successful in my community, hosting regular jam sales as well as Christmas cake competitions and Easter hot cross bun competitions for which local politicians would fall over themselves to be the taste testers.

Beyond all of the amazing community work that Norma did, friends always say that Norma was also a really fun person to spend time with. Not for Norma were the boring cups of tea or coffee that I like to drink. Norma's favourite treat was a lime spider, which she would always order because it was her celebratory drink of choice.

On behalf of my community and many people across Queensland who knew Norma in her long and very special life, I offer our heartfelt condolences to John and his family. Vale, Norma Lovelace.