



Speech By  
**Michael Crandon**


**MEMBER FOR COOMERA**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Gibbs, Mrs DER, OAM**

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (10.09 pm): It is my honour to share the amazing story of Doris Ethel Rosemary Gibbs OAM, born on 15 March 1929 in Victoria. In 1956, with late husband of 60 years plus, the Hon. Ivan Gibbs, who served in this place from 1974 to 1989, Doris moved to Queensland with two children, Chris and Paul. Once settled in Queensland, the family grew with the birth of Andrew, Matthew and Megan.

As well as raising five children in the early years, Doris was seemingly involved in all things good for her community. From the Labrador kindergarten, primary school and Girl Guides, Doris went on to serve as District Commissioner of Girl Guides. Other leadership roles included 20 years to 1989 as president of the St James Guild and chair of the St James Building Committee. The list goes on, with roles at Holy Rood Anglican Church, St Peter's Anglican Church, Labrador Senior Citizens and St Hilda's School, and included the Gold Coast Mayoress' Welfare Committee as a member and chair.

In Doris's life work, the word 'welfare' keeps coming up, as do leadership terms such as 'chair' and 'president'. Unsurprisingly, Doris received awards including Rotary's Paul Harris Fellow award and Lions' Melvin Jones Fellowship award.

In 2013, in her mid-eighties, Doris was a founding member and president of the Probus Club of Coomera Valley. Of course, Doris's world also included the National Party for more than 50 years and the LNP. Indeed, in 2008 Doris was a founding member of the LNP's aptly named ABC Ladies, with ABC standing for Albert, Broadwater and Coomera electorates.

Doris Ethel Rosemary Gibbs OAM passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on 20 July 2024, aged 95. The service and celebration of Doris's life was held at St Matthews Anglican Church, Upper Coomera, the church named in honour of Doris and Ivan's son Matthew, who sadly passed away at just 17 years of age in 1978.

Perhaps Doris's greatest legacy is her family, including four children, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. It pleases me to say that my wife, Pauline, and I enjoyed the friendship of Doris and Ivan in their later years, and I can confirm that this lady was most definitely a doer. I can also say she had a wonderful sense of humour and was prone to mischief and practical jokes at times.

Colleagues, I think you will agree, hers was an amazing life, and I can think of no better way to end other than to recite the Ralph Waldo Emerson poem *A Philosophy to Live By* in her honour—

To laugh often and much;  
to win the respect of intelligent people  
and the affection of children;  
to earn the appreciation of honest critics  
and endure the betrayal of false friends;  
to appreciate beauty;  
to find the best in others;

to leave the world a bit better  
whether by a healthy child, a garden patch,  
or a redeemed social condition;  
to know even one life has breathed easier  
because you lived.  
This is to have succeeded.

By every measure, it is without doubt that Doris succeeded. Vale, Doris Ethel Rosemary Gibbs OAM.