



Speech By
Hon. Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2024

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Greenwood, Hon. JW, QC



Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Premier) (9.33 am): I move—

1. That this House desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered to this State by the late Colonel the Honourable John Ward Greenwood, RFD, QC (Retired) a former member of the Parliament of Queensland and Minister of the State.
2. That Mr Speaker be requested to convey to the family of the deceased gentleman the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the Members of the Parliament of Queensland, in the loss they have sustained.

John Ward Greenwood was born on 29 April 1934 in Sydney. He was born in Sydney, but John Greenwood made his name and built a reputation in Queensland. Long before John Greenwood entered this place in 1974 as the member for Ashgrove he had established a distinguished career in the law. Studying law at the University of Queensland, John graduated and began his legal career as a clerk before being admitted to the bar in 1958. During the sixties, John Greenwood taught law and served on the university's faculty board. He joined the Army Reserve and served his country as a Defence Force magistrate, rising to the rank of colonel.

Eventually though, politics came calling. John Greenwood became a member of parliament, winning the then seat of Ashgrove in 1974. He would go on to serve in this House for nine years, including four years in the Bjelke-Petersen cabinet, parliamentary committees, and as a delegate to the historic Australian Constitutional Convention.

The year 1983 was a turbulent time in Queensland politics. From lawyer to lawmaker to lawyer again, John Greenwood returned to the bar as a distinguished Queen's Counsel, appearing often in significant cases before the High Court.

John Greenwood sadly passed away last December but not before establishing a reputation in courtrooms and in this parliament. I know the House will join me in thanking John Greenwood for his decades of service to the law and to our democratic processes and institutions and in passing on our condolences and best wishes to John's wife, Barbara, daughter Kate and son, Nigel, who are with us today. Vale, John Greenwood.