



Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli
MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2025

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Chapman, Mrs YA



Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.37 am): I move—

1. That this House desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered to this State by the late Yvonne Ann Chapman, 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 lady 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.

Yvonne Ann Chapman was born in Brisbane on 20 January 1940. She grew up on her family's dairy farm at Youngs Crossing on Brisbane's northside and was educated at Petrie State School and Banyo State High School. After leaving school Mrs Chapman began work as a secretary at the Australian Paper Manufacturers, also in Petrie. There she met her husband-to-be, Graeme, and they went on to have two children and run a successful steel fabrication business.

In 1976 Mrs Chapman was approached by the then state member for Pine Rivers, Rob Akers, to stand for election to Pine Rivers shire council. She took this advice and was elected. Mrs Chapman served on the Pine Rivers shire council from 1976 to 1983, including as the council's deputy chair from 1982 to 1983. During this time Mrs Chapman became involved with the National Party and she had her first tilt at election to this place at the state election of November 1980 in the electorate of Murrumbidgee. Whilst unsuccessful on that occasion, she tried again at the election of October 1983, this time in the electorate of Pine Rivers. Mrs Chapman narrowly won the seat for the National Party. In doing so she helped the National Party to form government in its own right for the first time.

Yvonne Chapman will forever have a place in Queensland's history as the first female to serve as a cabinet minister in this state. In February 1986 she was elected to cabinet to serve as minister for welfare services, youth and ethnic affairs. In December 1986 her ministry was changed and she became the minister for family services, youth and ethnic affairs and she served in this role until December 1987.

Mrs Chapman later served as minister for transport and ethnic affairs until the Cooper government lost office in December 1989 and Mrs Chapman lost her seat in this place. Determined to continue representing and serving the community, she attempted to return to this place in the seat of Nundah at a by-election in May 1991, before again turning her mind to local government. In 1995, Mrs Chapman was elected as the first mayor of the Pine Rivers shire council. Mrs Chapman was the first and only mayor to serve Pine Rivers. In 2008 she decided to retire when the shire was amalgamated into the new Moreton Bay regional council.

It is clear that Mrs Chapman had a love for the Pine Rivers region, proudly representing that area in one form or another for almost 30 years. She has been described by those who knew her as a strong character with a strong belief in protecting family and helping your neighbour. I spoke with her family this morning and they spoke of her love for the region, her passion for her family and her role as a trailblazer. Mr Speaker, on the day that you have acknowledged Irene Longman, it is fitting that we

acknowledge Mrs Chapman's service in breaking through. We thank her family for their time. In 2001, Mrs Chapman was awarded the Centenary Medal for her many years of service to the community through local and state government.

Yvonne Ann Chapman passed away on 27 October 2024, aged 84 years. On behalf of the government, I place on the record our thanks for her service over many years. I extend my sympathy and that of this House to her family and her friends. Vale, Yvonne Chapman.