



Speech By  
**Rob Molhoek**


**MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT**

---

Record of Proceedings, 22 May 2025

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Cousins, Mr I**

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (9.27 pm): Today I rise to pay tribute to a true giant of the Gold Coast, Mr Ian Cousins—affectionately known to many as Mr Media or Mr Gold Coast. Ian passed away peacefully on 17 April at Robina Hospital surrounded by those he loved most. His passing marks the end of a remarkable era in local media, community service and friendship. For more than four decades Ian was a towering figure in radio and community life across the coast. From his early days at 4RO in Rockhampton to 4GG, Radio 97 at the Tweed and then as general sales manager of 92.5 Gold FM and 90.9 Sea FM, Ian's passion for broadcasting helped shape the sound and spirit of the Gold Coast.

But he was not just a voice on the airwaves. Ian had a gift for bringing people together. Over the years we worked together he was a mate and a mentor. Such was the depth of our relationship, we often jokingly referred to each other as 'honey' because there were many weeks we spent more time and shared more meals together than we did with our wives and families. Together we worked through the late nineties to create the Gold Coast Community Fund, the Hospital Foundation, we fought to save the Gold Coast Chargers and we worked with the then Business Leaders Institute to establish the Gold Coast Business Excellence Awards, and for 20 years Ian has led those awards as a volunteer recognising businesses and entrepreneurs who helped build the modern Gold Coast. That quiet but constant commitment to community was Ian through and through.

Some in this House will remember him not only for his professional achievements but for his incredible warmth. He was always quick with a story or a smile or a lunch invitation. In fact, we affectionately called him Sir Lunchalot and the toasted sandwich that he introduced me to all those many years ago at the Seabank Cafe in Southport was a chicken, cheese and onion toasted sandwich on multigrain bread, and this remains as my favourite late-night snack here in parliament. Ian was a true gentleman.

To his wife, Brenda, and sons Jordan and Elliott we offer our deepest condolences. Your loss is deeply felt across the coast. Ian Cousins was not just a voice to the Gold Coast; he helped to define it. His legacy will live on in the stories we tell, the events we celebrate and the bonds of friendship he helped nurture. May he rest in peace. There are so many other stories I could tell about Ian, there are probably some that I should not tell and there are probably many that I am glad that no-one will ever find out about, but we had some amazing times together and he was probably one of the greatest and kindest people I have ever worked with.