



Speech By  
**Mark Boothman**


**MEMBER FOR THEODORE**

---

Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2022

**MOTION**

**Death of Queen Elizabeth II and Accession of King Charles III, Address of Condolence and Congratulations**

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (2.49 pm): I rise to contribute to the condolence motion for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Seldom in history have we seen a more dignified monarch and a more decent human being than Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. While it was a shock to hear of her death so quickly after meeting the new British Prime Minister Liz Truss, the Queen has left behind a legacy that will never be surpassed. Her rule was nothing more than extraordinary. For 70 years, she was the symbol of the Commonwealth and a shining light of dignity. Her life exemplified service to the people above oneself.

We all have witnessed the tributes from across the world, from the laying of flowers and wreaths, the lighting of candles, speeches from world leaders, both friends and those across the divide, and a state funeral that was watched by many across the world. This is a testament to her character and the great affection felt by so many for this much loved lady. Her 70 years and tens of thousands of public engagements most likely will never be surpassed by any current or future monarch.

In her early years, she developed a love of horses and the simple life in the countryside. However, fate had other ideas. The abdication of her uncle and her father's reluctance to accede to the throne in 1936, thrust the then 10-year-old Elizabeth into the limelight. A mere four years later, a teenage Elizabeth served the people of Great Britain and the Commonwealth in World War II, initially by radio address and then later as an army mechanic and a truck driver.

At age 25, she succeeded her father on the throne. She inherited a rapidly changing realm and a steadily shrinking empire, yet she never yearned for a return of the empire. Knowing that we could not live in the past and that we all had to forge a path differently, she devoted much of her time to serving and strengthening the Commonwealth. This included how the monarchy conducted itself. Above all, she exemplified our understanding of a modern constitutional monarch, namely that she believed it was her duty to serve the people, rather than to rule from a place of power and privilege.

The Queen had a deep affection for Queensland, visiting our state on eight occasions, including my region of the Gold Coast. This included opening the Brisbane Commonwealth Games and visiting many regional areas. Her deep sense of humour was well-known. Whether it was enjoying a marmalade sandwich with Paddington Bear or jumping out of a helicopter with James Bond, her gentle good humour will always remind us of the value of a good sense of fun. Although we are saddened by her passing, we are comforted in the knowledge that she has gone for a well-earned rest, alongside her beloved husband.

On behalf of the residents of the Theodore electorate, I wish His Majesty King Charles III a long and successful reign. Vale, Queen Elizabeth II.