
**MM10/21 PASSING OF PETER GRAHAM OAM - FORMER MAYOR
OF CITY OF RYDE - Mayor, Councillor Jerome Laxale and
Councillor Trenton Brown****File Number: MYR/07/10/20 - BP21/762**

It is my sad duty to inform Council through this Mayoral Minute of the recent passing of Peter Graham OAM.

Peter was a former Mayor of the City of Ryde and a tireless contributor to our community for more than 30 years as both an Alderman and as a Councillor.

He served as an Alderman on the Ryde Municipal Council from 1971 until 1977.

After getting married and moving house from the East Ward to his family home in Eastwood, he was elected as a West Ward Councillor from 1980 to 2004.

He served as Mayor in 1997 to 1999 and was Deputy Mayor on many occasions.

In 1993 Peter was awarded his OAM for services to local government, the Presbyterian Church and community health.

In 2000 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to Local Government by the Local Government Association and in 2001 he was awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal.

Prior to being elected as an Alderman, Peter joined the Liberal Party in his teenage years, becoming a member of the Ryde Young Liberals. Here he commenced a lifetime of service and contribution in all tiers of the Liberal Party of Australia. He was a local branch and conference office bearer and served on State Executive as the NSW Treasurer. Until recently he was the President of the Bennelong Federal Electorate Conference.

Peter founded the Denistone branch of the party with his great mentor, Sir Kenneth Anderson in the 1970's. Sir Kenneth was a former Alderman and Mayor of Ryde himself and was a willing mentor to Peter Graham for many years. This wonderful character trait of mentorship was something that Peter embodied as he matured and was an active mentor to the next generation of Liberal Party members, Ryde Councillors and our current State Member of Parliament.

Peter remained an active leader of his branch, now renamed as Shepherds Bay, and was re-elected its President in February 2021.

Peter continued to take an interest in the Ryde local government area following his retirement from Council and was a member of Ryde Council's Local Traffic Committee and Local Planning Panel until his recent move to the Central Coast.

MM10/21 (continued)

I know many of you will be deeply saddened by this news. Peter was a beloved friend, leader and mentor. He will be missed by many people in the Ryde Council family and by those who benefited from his mentoring over many years.

On behalf of Councillors, flowers have been sent to Peter's children, John, Kate and Lizzy and their families.

Peter's children have advised that a private ceremony was recently held. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council mark the passing of former Mayor, Peter Graham OAM with a minutes silence.
- (b) That with the permission of his family, consideration be given to the future naming of a public asset or place in the City of Ryde after Peter Graham OAM.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:



Councillor Jerome Laxale
Mayor