

3 years, she has studied part-time to gain formal qualifications in accounting as well as keeping a full-time job and looking after her family. We will be sorry to lose Barbara. She has a calm and pleasant personality that enables her to deal with people at all levels. I have always found her extremely pleasant and helpful. She has an imperturbable nature which has been very useful in the face of the many small dramas and, indeed, large dramas that can face a council when works disasters occur in the town and ratepayers are knocking on the door. Barbara has always been unflappable and has always had an answer to problems. Certainly, her practical, commonsense approach to matters will be missed by the council. The council is losing its 2 senior officers and it will be very difficult to replace them. They made a very good team. They are leaving the council at the same time, but are heading off on different career paths. I wish them well and, on behalf of Tennant Creek, I thank them for the work that they have undertaken in the town over the last several years.

Dr LIM (Greatorox): Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to join the Chief Minister tonight in paying tribute to the late Chris Afianos, who was born on 14 July 1928, and to convey my condolences to her daughters, Susie, Jasmin, Marina and Athena, and her granddaughter, Anjuli.

I have known this dear lady, the Matriarch of Tennant Creek, as she was called by Andrea Allen, for nearly as many years as I have been in the Northern Territory. I provided private medical services to Tennant Creek through fortnightly visits to the town as a general practitioner during the early years of my medical career in the Territory. I met this formidable lady during one of my visits to Tennant Creek Hospital where she was a member of the management board. From there, I would visit her newspaper office intermittently to catch up on the local news and events.

Margot Miles said in Chris's obituary: 'Like a lot of people who came to Tennant Creek, Chris Afianos came in search of a new beginning. She arrived here from Sydney in 1954, not planning to stay very long'. Chris stayed for the rest of her life which ended on 1 August 1995 when she was aged 67. I have a copy of the leaflet used at Chris's funeral service. In it is the full text of the obituary by Margot Miles entitled *A Life Well Lived*. I seek leave to table this document.

Leave granted.

Dr LIM: Like many small towns around the country, Tennant Creek has a captivating friendliness that makes people want to stay. It attracted this beautiful young nurse who was then 26 years of age. She had trained at the Parramatta District Hospital, and later at the Paddington Women's Hospital. Chris stayed to work as a nurse at the Tennant Creek Hospital. As that young nurse, it was said that she had had a great time in the early days, but soon settled when she married.

Chris married Nick Afianos in 1959. The marriage was to last 23 years until Nick's untimely death in 1982. Chris was left to raise their 4 daughters on her own. She bought the *Tennant and District Times*, turning the business into a successful venture able to support the education of her 4 children through school and university. In between writing and reporting for her newspaper about events in Tennant Creek, Chris was still able to find time to be involved with the community and the local school. She became the resident cake decorating