AUSTRALIA FAREWELLS A TERRITORY ICON

Terry Mills MLA
Date 7th January 2011

Today’s send off for Maurice Rioli provided a fitting farewell for a man whose contribution to the Territory will be remembered for years to come.

Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, said the large number of people at today’s service and the diversity of those who attended reflected the broad role Mr Rioli played in Territory and national life.

“First and foremost, Maurice Rioli was a Tiwi Islander who worked hard for his people,” Mr Mills said.

“As a footballer he let his skills do the talking and he was a model on and off the sporting arena for other Territorians who travelled interstate to play AFL.

“While he’s understandably highly regarded in Melbourne, where he was a shining light with the Richmond Football Club for many years, he is also extremely popular in Western Australia where he also played with distinction at the highest level over a number of years.

“He is warmly remembered by those who were fortunate enough to come into contact with this proud Territorian.

“My thoughts are with Mr Rioli’s family and friends at this sad time.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594