STATEMENT FROM MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS

19 June 2013

The Northern Territory has lost a much loved man and admired tourism industry figure with the passing of George Dunne.

George joined the Northern Territory Tourist Commission in 1980 and was Regional Director until 1998 when he was then appointed Ministerial Adviser to the Minister for Tourism and Chief Minister at the time, the Honourable Shane Stone MLA.

George was an active executive member of the Darwin Regional Tourism Association (now Tourism Top End) for 17 years. His industry involvement includes representation on the NT Tourism Advisory Council, Kakadu Advisory Committee, Vice Chairman of PATA NT chapter, Chairman of PATA NT chapter, Territory Wildlife Park steering committee, Federal Airports Corporation Advisory Council member and Fishing Tour Operators Association founding member.

In recognition of his efforts and achievements within the Northern Territory tourism industry, George received the Outstanding Contribution by an Individual Award at the 1991 Brolga Awards and also received the Tourism Minister's Perpetual Trophy at the 2008 Brolga Awards.

George was an NT and Australian Tourism Awards judge over many years and is well known to Tourism Australia and the National Tourism Alliance who have managed and coordinated the national awards program.

In 2012, George's contribution to the industry was honored by renaming a category at the Brolga Awards the George Dunne Award for Outstanding Contribution by an Individual.

The Territory has lost a man held in the highest respect by all who met him and an enormous figure who contributed to and helped shape the tourism industry in the Northern Territory.

I extend my sincere condolences to George’s wife Rhonda and daughters Learne, Rachel, Erin, Joanne and Sharon.

Media Contact:
Lisa Andrews 0401 579 963