1 March 2015

Vale Bruce (Tracker) Tilmouth

Leader of the Opposition, Delia Lawrie, today paid tribute to Bruce (Tracker) Tilmouth who passed away last night aged 62.

Ms Lawrie said that Tracker Tilmouth was an outstanding Territorian who will be sadly missed by many.

"Tracker was at the forefront of the Aboriginal rights movement and leaves a legacy of regional economic development as a pathway to social and economic opportunities," Ms Lawrie said.

"We are deeply saddened at Tracker's passing; he was such a strong voice for Aboriginal Territorians who spent decades challenging accepted norms.

"Tracker was a strong Labor man who challenged us to take action to improve the lives of Territorians.

"His sharp intellect combined with a wicked sense of humour was a tool he would wield to challenge us all to do more for his people."

Ms Lawrie said that Tracker was a Centralian who had been raised on Croker Island and in Darwin as part of the Stolen Generation.

"He was a man of the Territory and the grief of his loss is being felt across the Top End and in Central Australia," Ms Lawrie said.

"I was fortunate to have known Tracker for many years and considered him both a friend and mentor.

"Our lives kept crossing paths, from his teenage friendship with my late brother Charlie when they were ratbags together, through the years of Territory Labor politics and then to my employment of his daughter as my media advisor."

Ms Lawrie paid her sincere condolences to Trackers widow, Kathy; daughters Cathryn, Shaneen and Amanda; sons-in-law Luke Bayetto and Jarrad Doudle;
granddaughters Elaina and Yvette; and siblings William Tilmouth, Patrick Tilmouth, Margaret Hampton, Harry Nayda and Ian Nayda.

"May this great man rest in peace."

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