REG HARRIS – A MAN WHO LEFT HIS MARK ON ALICE SPRINGS

The Northern Territory Parliament today paid tribute to a pioneering Central Australian.

Minister for Central Australia, Dr Peter Toyne, said a condolence motion for Mr Reg Harris, who died last month, placed on the record the community’s appreciation for his work and commitment to Alice Springs.

“Reg Harris was a highly respected member of the Alice Springs community and left an indelible stamp on Central Australia in the nearly 60 years he lived here,” Dr Toyne said.

“He achieved much for the town in many fields – in business, in sport, in tourism, in communication and in his voluntary community work.

“It’s fair to say that Alice Springs wouldn’t be the place it is today without him.”

Dr Toyne said Mr Harris achieved a number of firsts during his time in Alice Springs.

“Reg was responsible for installing the Territory’s first elevator, in the Hotel Alice Springs and also introduced the first evaporative air conditioners to town, and I’m sure many people thanked him for that!

“He and his wife Marge introduced basketball to Alice and they also helped build the sports of football, hockey and cycling and were a driving force behind the establishment of sporting infrastructure such as Anzac Oval and Traeger Park.

“Reg was also an early driver of the tourism industry in the Centre and gave much of his time and energy to community service groups like Rotary.

“Our sympathies go out to Marge and the Harris family but they can be proud of the legacy that Reg Harris left the community of Alice Springs.”

Contact: Mandy Taylor 0414 634159