State Funeral to honour life of Cyril Kalippa

RIOLI family patriarch Cyril Kalippa will be buried in a State Funeral.

The Northern Territory Government offered the service to Mr Kalippa’s family after his death last Friday.

A date is yet to be advised.

Chief Minister Adam Giles offered his condolences to the Rioli family.

“My heartfelt sympathies go out to the entire Rioli family, as well as the Tiwi Islands community,” Mr Giles said.

“Cyril Kalippa was a champion to the Tiwi community. “A State Funeral is a fitting way to remember a man who was a firm advocate for Aboriginal rights, economic development in the region, and Aboriginal people, not just in the Tiwi Islands but right around the Territory.”

Member for Arafura Francis Kurkupawa has been liaising closely with the Rioli family.

“Cyril Kalippa was a highly respected senior leader within the community,” Mr Kurkupawa said. “Cyril Kalippa is leaving a strong legacy and he will be sorely missed within our community.”

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