

COLIN BUTCHER — TRIBUTE

Statement

HON STEVE MARTIN (Agricultural) [5.52 pm]: I offer my sincere condolences to the Butcher family of Brookton on the very sudden passing of their husband, father and grandfather, Colin, on Monday, 3 October. He was only 68 years old and died very suddenly at his property in Brookton.

Colin was an outstanding, sensible and optimistic voice for agriculture in Western Australia. Everyone who knew him was impressed with, first of all, his ability, but also his willingness to share the knowledge that he gained as a farmer. He served on the Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd board from 2004 to 2007. He was involved with the Western Australian Farmers Federation for a number of years and previously hosted Meat and Livestock Australia's pasture and livestock update to share his knowledge with ag students from WA universities. He was truly a wonderful advocate for the sector. Those who knew him—I got to know Colin in those roles—know that he was also worth listening to. He was a very capable individual. We spoke earlier in this place about the role of women in agriculture, and it is fair to say that Colin and his wife, Anna, were an absolute team. Everything they achieved on that property in Brookton they achieved together.

I also got to know Colin a little better perhaps as a cyclist. Colin and I share a love of cycling. You get to know a little bit about someone when you ride a bike for hours and hours with them, and Colin's attitude to cycling pretty much summed up his attitude to farming and life. He never complained on the way up a hill but he would enjoy himself very much on the way down. To the Butcher family, again, I would like to pass on my condolences.

Rest in peace.

House adjourned at 5.54 pm
