



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Main Committee

CONDOLENCES

Robinson, Sapper Rowan Jaie

SPEECH

Wednesday, 22 June 2011

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Date Wednesday, 22 June 2011
Page 7041
Questioner
Speaker Marino, Nola, MP

Source House
Proof No
Responder
Question No.

Ms MARINO (Forrest—Opposition Whip) (17:05): I rise in the debate on this condolence motion for Sapper Rowan Robinson to speak wholly and solely on behalf of Lance Corporal Michael Powell. Michael Powell trained with Sapper Robinson at basic training in Kapooka and the School of Military Engineering in Sydney and they were sappers in the 3rd Combat Engineer Regiment in Townsville. Lance Corporal Powell has given me his words to read here today:

Sapper Rowan 'Robbo' Robinson was my mate. We joined the Army together and we served together. I knew him well. I miss him.

Robbo was an incredible person, a superb friend and an exceptional soldier.

Even upon joining the Army he was mature beyond his years and an inspiration to all his peers.

His skills and abilities were vast and varied. From singing and playing the guitar to military diving he could do it or he had done it.

With elite fitness and a rare strength of character his passing is devastating.

This was Rowans second trip to Afghanistan. When asked to serve, he stepped up proudly, with passion for his profession and unwavering commitment to his mates.

His vibrant smile and outstanding personality will be forever missed and never forgotten.

Those words are the words of Lance Corporal Michael Powell.