



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



THE SENATE

CONDOLENCES

Private Edward (Ted) Kenna VC

SPEECH

Tuesday, 11 August 2009

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

SPEECH

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Questioner
Speaker Fielding, Sen Steve

Source Senate
Proof No
Responder
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Senator FIELDING (Victoria—Leader of the Family First Party) (4.06 pm)—I rise on behalf of Family First to also support this condolence motion for Private Ted Kenna. As we heard, his acts of absolute bravery during a machine-gun attack in Papua New Guinea back in 1945 did not go unnoticed. We are all the richer for that not going unnoticed. He was a Victorian resident. Our sympathies are with his wife. Three weeks after his act of bravery, he was injured. It is interesting to note that Private Ted Kenna met his wife in hospital, where she nursed him. They were married for more than 60 years. He was born in Hamilton, Victoria, and made his family home there. Recently, he was at a nursing home in Geelong, Victoria, with his wife. We place great significance on noting Mr Kenna's extreme bravery and we acknowledge him as the last of the World War II VC recipients.