



**Adrian Pederick MP**  
Member for Hammond

## HANSARD

House of Assembly  
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### WARDLE, IVON ALFRED OAM

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (14:08):** I rise, too, to pay my respects to Ivon Alfred Wardle OAM. Ivon made the grand old age of 94, and I note also that in his time he was a Justice of the Peace for 54 years, a director of outreach services with the Methodist Church and chairman of Resthaven home for the aged. He also had time as a Methodist minister, as has already been spoken about today, a deputy town clerk and an ambulance officer in Murray Bridge.

Apart from being born into a farming family at Burra in South Australia—as if that was not tough enough—they decided to come out to Wynarka in 1927. That is where he had primary schooling and then worked on his parents' farm. It has already been discussed here about his great and courageous war service in Papua New Guinea with the No. 75 Kittyhawk Squadron with the RAAF. I also note that Ivon worked as a Methodist minister at both Spalding and Pinnaroo, and also continued some farming at Coonalpyn, which is just outside of my electorate. He was a district clerk at Meningie, a deputy town clerk at Murray Bridge and he served four terms as the Liberal member for Murray before unsuccessfully contesting the 1977 election as an Independent.

Ivon was awarded an Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 1995 for service to the South Australian parliament, to the community through the Uniting Church in Australia, and to aged care, and that award was very well deserved.

Ivon served the electorate of Murray from 1968 to 1977. I was a young boy and I was learning to play the piano and, as a personal note, it was Ivon's first wife, Dorothy, who was attempting to teach me and that was a struggle, I must say, so perhaps I did not have the fingers for the keyboard. She soon learned that I had a bit of difficulty coordinating right and left hand so she sent me off to learn the electronic organ, where all you had to do is use your memory and learn chords, so that is what I did. I think poor Dorothy was quite frustrated with my lack of ability.

Be that as it may, it was interesting to note that there was no pretence about Ivon and Dorothy Wardle's home. It was just a home in the south of Murray Bridge, not unlike many homes in that area; only a three bedroom, fairly standard place, and Ivon was not one to lord it over anyone or the community.

I must say it has been great to catch up with Ivon over the years. Since I have been elected, he has come to several of my end of year Christmas events. It was fantastic to host him and to run into him at times in the halls of parliament at past members' lunches, and I am very sad that that will not happen again. I have very fond memories of Ivon and his first wife Dorothy, and I have also meet Fay, and my condolences go to Fay and the rest of the family.

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