

**Eulogy to Eric Traise
By Darryl Johnston
Tuggeranong Community Council
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I was honoured when asked to say a few words about Eric today on behalf of his family and the Tuggeranong Community Council.

Eric served the Tuggeranong community for many years through his involvement on the Council.

He joined the Council and soon took up the role as Treasurer, a position he held continuously until 2012 including my term as President.

Eric was elected as TCC President in 2013.

Despite his illness, he stood for President for a second term and was re-elected to the post unopposed.

Eric also held the position of Chair of the Canberra Airport's Community Aviation Consultative Group.

His devotion to the Tuggeranong community is clearly demonstrated by his decision to continue in the President's role despite his own ongoing health problems.

He was regularly required to return to hospital where he continued to advocate on behalf of Tuggeranong residents from his hospital bed after his family gave him an I Pad.

He used it for Council business but also to fire off many letters to the Editor of the Canberra Times about the lack of benefit to the Tuggeranong community from the proposed Light Rail project.

On some occasions he also held meetings on matters concerning Tuggeranong residents with ACT Government officers around his hospital bed.

Under his leadership the Council also joined with the Tuggeranong Lake Carers Group and successfully campaigned for funding to improve water quality in the Lake.

His enthusiastic work in the community has helped to raise public awareness of many important issues, including public transport, roads, the environment, lack of professional health services in the Valley and aged care just to mention a few.

He was part of a successful campaign to prevent public servants from relocating from Tuggeranong Town Centre to Woden.

He had strongly campaigned to have a CIT campus established in Tuggeranong.

Eric also assisted developers including one businessman who wanted to establish a new swimming centre in the Valley.

In recognition of his efforts the owners of the pool have announced a plaque will be placed at the centre in honour of Eric.

Eric succeeded in raising the reputation and profile of the TCC and increasing its membership.

In doing so, he brought people of differing backgrounds, ages and experience together on the TCC to work for a common goal, that of improving the quality of life for all Tuggeranong residents.

There is no doubt Eric's involvement over many years on the TCC has been beneficial and reaped valuable dividends for the Tuggeranong community.

Thanks to his commitment and leadership, despite his own health issues, the TCC remains a strong voice for the residents of Tuggeranong.

The projects he has overseen and that continue today will benefit Tuggeranong residents and will remain his legacy now and into the future.

Thank you.