

**CAVALIERE ALFREDO STRANO — CONDOLENCE**

*Statement by Member for Swan Hills*

**MR F.A. ALBAN (Swan Hills)** [12.22 pm]: I would like to record the life of a great Australian of Italian heritage. Cavaliere Alfredo Strano was born in 1924 in the province of Reggio Calabria and was the younger of two sons of Caterina and Pasquale Stano. Migrating to Australia in 1948 and settling in Western Australia, he led a remarkable life from being a prisoner of war to becoming a community leader and justice of the peace. Alfredo was the founder and president of the Associazione Nazionale Famiglie degi Emigrati in Perth in 1963. With his wife, Maria, by his side, he led his community through the ANFE, and his life mirrored that of his fellow countrymen. He and his wife went through hardships, turmoils and humiliation in their quest to secure a better life, not only for themselves, but also above all for their children. His contribution to the Italian migrant community is immeasurable. His last official role in life with the association was to represent the whole Australian ANFE movement at a private meeting in Rome with the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. It was an honour bestowed on him by Maria Federici on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the ANFE. Alfredo's life was guided by solid Christian principles and values. His everyday dealings with his fellow men were based on understanding, generosity, caring, respect, assistance and forgiveness. In 60 years of public life, Alfredo always distinguished himself as a person who would put his whole heart and soul into everything he did. With his death, Australia and Italy have lost a person of exceptional talent and the only author who documented in the Italian language the real-life experience of the hundreds of thousands of twentieth century Italian migrants in Australia. His contribution to the Italian migrant community will never be forgotten.