

DEBORAH WALSH — FUNERAL SERVICE

Statement by Member for Armadale

DR A.D. BUTI (Armadale) [12.58 pm]: Last Tuesday I attended the funeral of Deborah Walsh, who was unfortunately taken from this earth too early. Deborah was born in 1963 and was the loving wife of Gary Gray, the former federal member for Brand. She was also the loving mother of Riley, Darcy and Toby. Anyone who attended her funeral would have seen that Deborah was a very special person to all those whom she loved, and many, many other friends.

Deborah unfortunately died of breast cancer and was involved in a research program called BROCADE for the better understanding of how and why some breast cancers become resistant to therapies. Deb donated tissue, which was collected soon after her death. Her generous gift will help improve outcomes for people affected by breast cancer in the future, and the family suggests that further donations be made to that project.

People who attended the funeral heard some moving eulogies from Gary and her three sons. The love that they talked about from their mother was very moving and they all spoke with incredible passion and respect for their mother.

Deb is also the daughter of former Senator Peter Walsh, and her extended family will all miss her very much. She will be remembered as a very loving person, committed to social justice, and committed to her family. May she rest in peace.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm