



## **Ian Lindsay Tuxworth ('60)**

18/6/42 – 21/1/20



Ian Tuxworth is remembered as a pioneering politician who helped shape the Northern Territory by championing its independence from Canberra and advocating for all Territorians – especially those from the bush.

Ian was a pioneer of the Northern Territory's self-government movement and was its Chief Minister from 1984 to 1986. He grew up in Tennant Creek and completed his secondary schooling at Rostrevor College.

Mr Tuxworth was elected as the Member for Barkly in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly when it was first created in 1974 and held the seat for 16 years.

He was the NT's second Chief Minister, holding office from October 17, 1984, until his resignation on May 10, 1986, as leader of the Country Liberal Party. He then founded the NT Nationals Party and contested the seat in the 1987 election, which he won in a tightly contested by-election.

His contribution to the NT was recognised with a State Funeral in his honour in Darwin on February 5, 2020. In the opening Eulogy, Current NT Chief Minister Michael Gunner said: "Ian will be remembered as one of our founding political fathers at a time when the Territory was finally making its move towards self-government. His voice – a very distinctive Northern Territory drawl – was heard loud and clear across the country where his battles with Canberra were the stuff of legend."

After retiring from politics, Ian and the family relocated to Perth where he is survived by wife Ruth, children Sonia, Guy and Gemma, and eight grandchildren.