

**THE HON RICHARD MARLES MP
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

GRAHAM 'POLLY' FARMER

Today we mourn the loss of Graham 'Polly' Farmer.

Whilst hailing from Fremantle, Polly Farmer would become the cornerstone of the Geelong Football Club, playing more than 100 premiership games and kicking 65 goals for the Cats.

He was a part of the Cats Premiership winning team in 1963 and coached from 1973-75.

And yet he was so much more than that.

He was an Indigenous trailblazer, and was one of the greatest AFL Players of all time.

Polly Farmer revolutionised the way football was played. Whilst he will be remembered for many things, his use of handball made him football's best ruckman by far.

Polly Farmer contributed an enormous amount of work off the field which focused on giving Aboriginal people support to do more with their lives and reaching their full potential in sport, education and business.

I met Polly's daughter, Kim and grandson, Cole earlier this year, my thoughts are with them and their family today.

Vale Graham 'Polly' Farmer.

WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST 2019

Authorised by Paul Erickson, ALP, Canberra.