

11.2.99

Dear Shane,

I first met you in 1990
when you doorknocked Port Darwin.
You were impressive then as you
still are now. Since that time, I
have come to truly admire and
respect you.

Your term as Chief Minister
has been exciting and vibrant. You
leave behind a legacy of economic
and social advancement consistent
with your vision for the Territory.
You have strengthened our
structure in the region and shared
the Australian stage with the
best of them.

It takes a special person to
step aside from the top job with
such dignity - especially in
the face of such undignified
treatment.

The truth is that no one can
take away the fact that you
were Chief Minister of the
Northern Territory - and a bloody
good one at that!

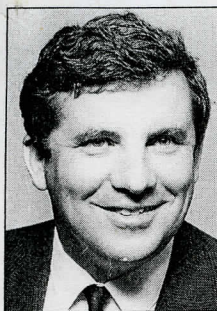
Thank you for what you
have done for me personally
and as a Territorian.

Best wishes

Jerry Foster



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



MEMBER FOR PORT DARWIN

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28 April, 1999

Ms Terry Foster
GPO Box 3064
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Terry

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 2. Notwithstanding that we have seen each other since my resignation as Chief Minister, I apologise for not responding earlier but I am endeavouring to make my way through an avalanche of mail.

All of that mail has been written to me in very personal terms and deserves an equally personal response.

Although I don't recall meeting you during 1990 when I was door-knocking as the new candidate for Port Darwin, I certainly have a clear recollection of you as one of those Territorians who encouraged and supported me during my time as a Minister and then as Chief Minister.

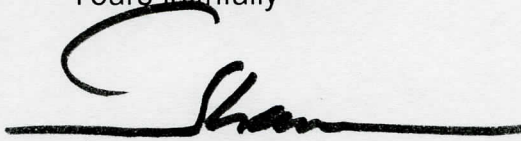
I believe that I have left behind a legacy that will stand the test of time. Whilst I was not happy about the way in which I left office, the reality was that I was departing in any event. Notwithstanding the obvious shabby treatment, I have retained my sense of dignity through it all and have now put it behind me.

It was a great privilege to have served Territorians as their Chief Minister and I look back on my time with a great sense of satisfaction.

I never had any hesitation in supporting you on a personal level. I regret what has transpired but we all have these challenges which we have to deal with in our own way.

In the event that I can ever be of any assistance to you, you should not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane", written over a horizontal line.

Shane L. Stone