



The Federal Redistribution 2009
QUEENSLAND



Public Suggestion Number 3

Glynn Evans

2 pages

From: Glynn Evans [glynn.evans@adelaide.edu.au]
Sent: Monday, 20 April 2009 5:03 PM
To: QLD Redistribution
Subject: Queensland's New Seat
Attachments: Killen.doc

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached a suggestion for the name of the new Queensland federal electorate, which I propose be named Killen, in honour of former Liberal MP and Minister, James Killen.

As you probably guess, I am employed in the Politics Department of the University of Adelaide.

Yours faithfully

Glynn Evans.

Mr Glynn Evans
260 South Terrace
Adelaide SA 5000
20 April 2009

Dear Commissioners

I wish to make a suggestion as to the name of the new federal electorate that Queensland is entitled to as a result of the increase in its population.

I propose that the new electorate be named Killen, in honour of former Liberal MP and Minister James Killen.

Denis James Killen was born in the Queensland town of Dalby on 23 November 1925. As a young man he worked as a jackeroo in Western Queensland, and also served in the Royal Australian Air Force in World War 2. He was discharged in 1945 with the rank of Flight Sergeant.

He was elected as the Liberal member for the southern Brisbane seat of Moreton in the 1955 election, a seat he held until his resignation in August 1983. He achieved some fame in 1961 when he won his seat by just 130 votes, a victory that gave the Menzies Government a two seat majority in the House of Representatives.

He later went on to be Minister for the Navy in the Gorton Government from 1969 to early 1971, losing his spot when William McMahon ousted Gorton and became Prime Minister. When Malcolm Fraser seized the Prime Ministership in 1975, Killen became Minister for Defence, a portfolio he held until mid 1982, when he assumed the lighter duties of Vice-President of the Executive Council, which he held until the defeat of the Fraser Government at the 1983 election. He was knighted at around the time he changed portfolios..

Killen had completed a law degree while a Member of Parliament, studying under future Governor-general Sir Zelman Cowen. He combined a law practice with his parliamentary duties, and took up the work full-time after his retirement from politics. His political memoir, *Inside Australian Politics*, was published in 1985.

Killen was noted for his principled approach to politics and his liking for witty banter in parliament. He had a great enthusiasm for the philosophies of eighteenth century British conservative philosopher/politician Edmund Burke, and in his early parliamentary career he was controversial for his support for Ian Smith's regime in Southern Rhodesia.

Killen's major interest outside politics was horseracing. He owned a few racehorses, the most notable being Wellington Road, which ran unsuccessfully in the 1982 Caulfield Cup.

Killen died in 2007 after a long illness.