

MATT LAFFAN



1971 - 2009

Matt Laffan was Vice-Captain of Coffs Harbour High School 1988, Coffs Harbour Youth of the Year 1989, Australasian Toastmasters Junior Public Speaking Champion 1987 and Coffs Harbour Advocate Rugby Journalist 1986 – 1988.

Matt graduated in Arts/Law from the University of Sydney and while residing at St John's College, was Rugby Secretary 1990, House Secretary 1991 and House President 1993.

Matt was a lawyer with the Department of Public Prosecutions; served on judiciaries OF NSW Rugby Union and SAANZ (Super 16); activist for the rights of the disabled and had a keen sense of social justice recognised by the annual Matt Laffan Memorial Oration at Sydney University Law School.

This tribute is to Matt who determination to succeed and enjoy life to the full with wit and humour, despite severe physical disability and being confined to a wheelchair, inspired all who knew him (and many who didn't).

Matt died of respiratory failure in 2009, aged 38 years.

