

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **DDHHS unveils memorial to Dr Roger Guard and Dr Jill Guard**

The memories of Dr Roger Guard and his wife Dr Jill Guard were commemorated with the unveiling of a permanent memorial at Toowoomba Hospital today.

The Toowoomba couple were among 298 people who lost their lives on 17 July 2014 when Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 was shot down over Ukraine.

“Dr Roger Guard was director of the Pathology Queensland laboratory at Toowoomba Hospital for 30 years, and his wife Dr Jill Guard was a well respected retired GP who worked at the Toowoomba Family Planning Clinic for many years,” said Mr Mike Horan, Darling Downs Hospital and Health Board chair.

“It is fitting that we gather today to remember Roger and Jill, and to unveil this memorial as a permanent reminder of the high regard in which they were held by colleagues and friends throughout the DDHHS, the local medical fraternity, and the broader community.

“We are especially pleased to have Roger and Jill’s children Paul, David and Amanda, and Jill’s sister Marion and her husband John, with us on this very special occasion.”

David Stranger, Group Laboratory Manager for the Pathology Queensland laboratory at Toowoomba Hospital, said Dr Guard would have been proud of the way the pathology team had moved forward in the past 12 months.

“The team has done exactly what Roger would have wanted by continuing to provide quality pathology services to the doctors and patients of Toowoomba,” Mr Stranger said.

“The memories of Roger and Jill will always be very close to the hearts of the members of the pathology team, as they will be to all who knew them.”

Mr Stranger joined with Mr Horan in unveiling a solid granite seat and memorial plaque, which will be permanently located on the Village Green adjacent to the main entrance of Toowoomba Hospital.

**Ends**

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