

Entry type: Person  
Entry ID: AWE1216

# Ray, Margaret Elizabeth

(1933 - 2017)

Born	19330715, Melbourne Victoria Australia
Died	20170531, Melbourne Victoria Australia
Occupation	Parliamentarian, Social justice advocate, Teacher

## Summary

A member of the Australian Labor Party from 1971, Margaret Ray served as the member for Box Hill in the Legislative Assembly of the Victorian Parliament from 1982 to 1992. She was defeated at the state election, which was held on 3 October 1992.

## Details

Daughter of Edward Leslie Vercoe, a Methodist minister of religion, and Thelma Alice Tickner, Margaret Ray completed her primary school education at Camberwell State School in Victoria. She completed her secondary education at Hamilton High School in Victoria and Devonport High School in Tasmania. She trained as a secondary school teacher in Victoria, gaining a Bachelor of Arts degree ( Honours) and a Diploma of Education from the University of Melbourne. Her teaching appointments included Wangaratta High School 1956-57 and Greythorn High School 1968-81.

On 31 August 1957 she married George Wilson Ray also a schoolteacher. They had a son and two daughters.

She was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the seat of Box Hill in 1982 and retained it until 1992. She was a member of the Standing Orders Committee of the Victorian Parliament, 1982-92.

Her community activities included: secretary of the Blackburn Lake Primary School Committee 1964-69; women’s registrar of the Victorian Amateur Gymnastic Association 1978, 1979; and elder of the Uniting Church in Blackburn.

She was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2004.

## Events

**2004 - 2004**  
Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

## Published resources

### **Edited Book**

Who's Who in Australia 1983, Draper, W. J., 1983

### **Book**

Biographical register of the Victorian Parliament, Browne, Geoff, 1985

### **Site Exhibition**

Carrying on the Fight: Women Candidates in Victorian Parliamentary Elections, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2008,

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/cws/home.html>

### **Resource**

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### **Author Details**

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