

skier onto his back, positioned the head to open the airway, and immediately initiated chest compressions.

Members of the Nub's Nob Ski Patrol arrived shortly after with an automated external defibrillator, administering two shocks. CPR continued following the defibrillation once it was deemed safe to do so, and oxygen was delivered using a bag-valve mask. Sergeant Wagner assisted ski patrol in securing the skier onto a toboggan for transport down the trail.

Upon arrival at the ski patrol room, Emmet County Emergency Medical Services assumed care and transported the skier to McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital, where he is expected to make a full recovery. Medical staff later confirmed that the rapid response, early CPR, and timely use of an AED were critical to saving the skier's life.

Mr. Speaker, let us join together in recognizing Sergeant Dennis Wagner for his life-saving and selfless actions. I thank him for his continued dedication to the people of Michigan through his service with the Michigan State Police, and I commend him for embodying the very best of public service.

IN MEMORY OF SHERIFF JOHN
BOWENS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound sorrow but also with deep gratitude to pay tribute to a man whose life was a testament to faith, service, and love—Sheriff John Bowens of Terrell County, Georgia. A funeral service to celebrate his remarkable and purposeful life was held on Saturday, February 7, 2026, in Dawson, Georgia. Born August 17, 1946, in Dawson, Georgia, John Bowens grew from humble beginnings into a leader whose steady hands and steady heart guided a community for more than three decades.

I have had the honor of representing many remarkable public servants, but few have combined humility, resolve, and compassion the way Sheriff Bowens did. His story is the American story—a son of Terrell County who worked hard, raised a devoted family, held fast to faith, and answered the call to protect his neighbors. After graduating from Carver High School in 1965, Sheriff Bowens rolled up his sleeves and worked wherever his community needed him: as a bus driver, ensuring children arrived at school safe and ready to learn; as a mechanic at Dawson Motor Company, tending to the machines that helped his neighbors make a living; and later in the ranks of public safety—with the Dawson Fire Department, the Dawson and Dougherty County police departments, and ultimately the Terrell County Sheriffs Department. Each step in his career was a step closer to a life of service, each job a small promise kept to his fellow citizens.

In 1992, the people of Terrell County placed their trust in John Bowens and elected him, Sheriff. That trust was repaid every day, for 32 years. He served longer than any sheriff in the county's history and became the longest-serving African American sheriff elected in the State of Georgia. But these distinctions tell

only part of the story. What mattered most to those who knew him was not the record on a plaque, but the quiet, constant ways he showed up: walking neighborhoods, listening to concerns with patience, mentoring young people who might otherwise have lost their way, and standing at the bedside of a grieving family or the side of a frightened child until calm returned.

Sheriff Bowens' leadership flowed from a bedrock of faith. Introduced to Christ early, he first joined Pleasant Hill Missionary Church in Herod and later made Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Dawson his spiritual home. For more than thirty years, he served as a Deacon and as Chairman of the Deacon Board—roles he carried not as honors but as responsibilities. In the church he found purpose; in the Lord he found the guiding light that shaped his decisions, his care for others, and the moral courage that marked his long career.

His life was also defined by a love that endured: in 1966 he married Janice Williams Bowens, his partner, confidante, and anchor. Together they raised four children—Darrell, Brenda, Marcus, and Pamela—and built a family that mirrored the values they lived: faith, perseverance, and tenderness. John took pride in his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; he celebrated their milestones as if they were his own, and they drew strength from his example. Family, for Sheriff Bowens, was not a private matter—it was the wellspring of his public service, the place where he learned to care for others before caring for self.

Sheriff Bowens was a man of convictions. He was outspoken when injustice threatened the vulnerable, and he was steady when storms—literal and figurative—tested Terrell County. People could depend upon him. When difficult choices had to be made, neighbors sought his counsel because they knew his word was his bond. He earned the respect of fellow law enforcement officers across counties, and he carried himself with a dignity that reflected both his personal faith and his commitment to the rule of law.

Those who served beside him remember a leader who mentored rather than commanded, who cultivated loyalty not by fear but by example. He was a Mason at St. Mark Lodge 59 and a friend to many. He celebrated community life and helped weave the social fabric of Dawson and Terrell County so that when tragedy came, people had one another to lean on.

On a personal note, Sheriff Bowens was my friend. We established a bond as we were both elected in 1992. He never told me what I wanted to hear, but he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will be forever grateful for his fidelity and his friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian and me along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in honoring the life and legacy of Sheriff John Bowens. Moreover, we extend our deepest sympathies to Sheriff Bowens' family, friends, loved ones and all those who grieve during this difficult time of bereavement. We pray that they will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

May the life of Sheriff John Bowens be a beacon to those who follow: a call to serve without expectation of fame, to lead with humility, and to love without reservation. May he rest in peace, and may his memory be a blessing to us all.

HONORING JOHNNY QUINESSO, SR.
ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Johnny Quinesso, Sr. On Thursday, February 5, 2026, family, friends, and members of the community gathered on the USS *New Jersey* in the City of Camden, New Jersey to celebrate the 100th birthday of Navy Veteran Johnny Quinesso, Sr.

Born and raised in Vineland, New Jersey, Johnny served his country as a radioman for the United States Navy on the LSM-302, where he was the radioman on duty as the message was received that the Japanese had surrendered, and that World War II had ended.

Following his time in the war, Johnny was a dedicated government employee with the Internal Revenue Service for 43 years, meanwhile continuing to dedicate his time volunteering on the Battleship *New Jersey*, shaping the lives of visitors through stories of his service.

While living in Vineland, New Jersey, Johnny Quinesso, Sr. has remained a symbol of strength and his willingness to teach others about history, has made a powerful example of what it means to be a leader, and friend, supporting others for the entirety of his life.

We celebrate Johnny Quinesso, Sr.'s 100 years of life and look forward to many more years as a constant source of heroism, dedication, and inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Johnny Quinesso, Sr., a citizen dedicated to both his country and community, and who has thoroughly served them both to the best of their ability.

CONDEMNING THE SENTENCING OF
JIMMY LAI

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as myself, the son of a Flying Tiger of World War II serving in Kunming, Xi'an, and Chengdu, developing a warm affection for the people of China, I am especially disappointed with the outrageous sentencing of Chinese patriot Jimmy Lai. The National Review, in the tradition of William F. Buckley, Jr., has always been a bulwark for freedom, successfully promoting democracy to be victorious over totalitarian communism, liberating tens of millions across the world. I include in the RECORD the following article from the National Review by Kamden Mulder:

PRO-DEMOCRACY MEDIA MOGUL JIMMY LAI
SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN CHINESE PRISON

Pro-democracy Hong Kong media mogul Jimmy Lai was sentenced to 20 years in prison following the end of his long-awaited trial in December, when he was convicted of violating Chinese national security laws.

Lai's sentence is the harshest ever handed down for a violation of this specific Chinese