



John Lewis Bowie

March 15, 1931 - March 10, 2022

John Lewis Bowie

15 March 1931 — 10 March 2022

(Jackson, MS) Rev. John Lewis Bowie, 90, of Raymond, MS, passed away on March 10, 2022, at the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jackson. Born March 15, 1931, in McCool, MS, John grew up working the family farm with his parents, Sidney Charles and Alma Ruth (Dacus) Bowie, and brothers, Sidney Charles, Jr., and Jerry Martin. John had a younger sister, Martha Nell, who died at the age of two.

A 1948 graduate of McCool High School, John was awarded the Associate of Arts degree (1950) from Wood Junior College, Mathiston, MS, the Bachelor of Arts degree (1952) from Millsaps College, Jackson, and the Bachelor of Divinity degree (1955) from the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. John dedicated his life to ministry, first, in the Methodist Church, and then the United Methodist Church, having been “licensed to preach” in 1948, ordained deacon in 1952, and elder in 1955. After first meeting Gladys Kathleen Flournoy at a young adult fellowship program at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church in Atlanta, the two were married on September 19, 1954, spending the next 40 years moving from parsonage to parsonage and raising their four children. Serving congregations in Weir-McCool, Kosciusko circuit, Sallis-McAdams-Bethel-Salem, Friars Point-Lyon-Coahoma-Jonestown,

Houston-Prospect, Tupelo, Batesville-Curtis Union, Corinth, Cleveland, Greenville, Holly Springs-Mount Pleasant, and, finally, Crystal Springs-Mount Pleasant, John and Gladys retired from active ministry in 1994, choosing to reside in Crystal Springs. Since March of 2020, they made their home at Riggs Manor Retirement Community in Raymond, MS.

Throughout his ministry, John was a committed activist for justice for the marginalized and excluded, having a particular passion for racial reconciliation, for supporting 12-step addiction recovery programs, and for encouraging young people, especially women, in ministerial vocations.

John is survived by his wife, Gladys, and his children, Sheila Bowie Fowler of Waynesville, NC, Kenneth Scott Bowie (Carrie) of South Bend, IN, and Suzannah Bowie Moorman (Steve) of Mont Belvieu, TX; 11 grandchildren, Eric Dawson, Charles Dawson, Andy Fowler, Anna Lauren Bowie Wilcox, Adam Fowler, John Hunter Bowie, Alex Fowler, Kate Bowie, Austin Fowler, Steven Moorman, Sarah Moorman; 8 great-grandchildren; his brother, Jerry Martin Bowie (Vera) of North Little Rock, AR, and his daughter-in-law, Debbie Bowie of Batesville, MS. He was preceded in death by his sister, Martha Nell Bowie, his brother, Sidney Charles Bowie, Jr., and his eldest son, John Soren Bowie.

A time of worship celebrating John's life will be Friday, June 17, 2022, at 11:00am with visitation starting at 10:00am at the Crystal Springs United Methodist Church in Crystal Springs, MS, with the Revs. Victoria Leigh White and Milton Allen Mothershed officiating. Stringer Family Funeral Home in Crystal Springs is handling arrangements. Gifts honoring the memory of John may be made to the following or to a charitable cause of one's own choosing:

Riggs Manor Retirement Community
2300 Seven Springs Road, Raymond, MS 39154

Friars Point United Methodist Church
270 Second Street Friars Point MS 38631

Crystal Springs United Methodist Church
306 W Georgetown St, Crystal Springs, MS 39059

Tribute Wall



“ *John Lewis Bowie*

January 28, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Lewis Bowie.*



June 15, 2022 at 10:41 AM



“ *I never had the pleasure of meeting Rev. Bowie. However, I knew some things about him through his daughter, Sheila. Those exemplary qualities were only reinforced by the things I have learned from reading the obituary. Well done thy good and faithful servant!*

Robert A. (Bob) Herring III - March 16, 2022 at 12:40 PM



“ *[Memorial Trees](https://www.stringerfuneral.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of John Lewis Bowie.*

March 12, 2022 at 05:23 PM



“ *Sandra Cliburn sent a virtual gift in memory of John Lewis Bowie*



Sandra Cliburn - March 11, 2022 at 07:58 PM



*My thoughts and prayers are with ya'll....John 14
Sharing your loss...*

Sandra Cliburn

Sandra Cliburn - March 11, 2022 at 07:59 PM

RR

Sorry to learn of John's death. We were roommates at Emory one Quarter. He and I were the only one's left from our 52 Millsaps Class who were at Emory together. God bless Gladys and Family. Roy H. Ryan

Roy H. Ryan - March 14, 2022 at 10:11 PM