

# POSTHUMOUS FREEDOM AWARD RECIPIENT



## Congressman Doug LaMalfa (1960-2026)

The Capital Lincoln Club is honored to announce that its Inaugural Freedom Award will be presented posthumously to Congressman Doug LaMalfa at the Freedom Awards Dinner on Saturday, May 2, 2026, at The Sutter Club in Sacramento.

Doug LaMalfa (1960–2026) was a fourth-generation rice farmer from Butte County who built his life on the values that built this country: hard work, faith, family, and community. After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, he returned to the family farm before entering public service — first in the California State Assembly, then the State Senate, and in 2012 the United States House of Representatives, where he served California's 1st Congressional District for thirteen years.

As the unanimously elected Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, Doug was a tireless champion for water storage, wildfire prevention, forest management, and the rights of farmers and ranchers. When the Oroville Dam crisis struck in 2017 and the Camp Fire devastated Paradise in 2018, Doug was on the ground — supporting the communities, holding officials accountable and securing critical federal funding for recovery. Those weren't just communities in his district. They were his neighbors.

Known for his authenticity and warmth, Doug was as likely to be found in faded jeans and cowboy boots at a county fair or classic car show as he was on the floor of the House. "He's one of us" wasn't just a campaign slogan — it was the truth.

Congressman LaMalfa passed away on January 5, 2026, at the age of 65. He is survived by his wife Jill, their four children, one grandchild, and two sisters.

