

## Governor Phil Murphy

# Governor Murphy Directs the Lowering of U.S. and New Jersey Flags in Honor of Former Assembly Speaker Chuck Hardwick

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**TRENTON** — Governor Murphy today signed Executive Order No. 382, ordering U.S. and New Jersey flags to fly at half-staff on Friday, February 28, 2025, in recognition and mourning of a dedicated public servant, Assembly Speaker Charles “Chuck” Hardwick.

Speaker Hardwick passed away on February 19, 2025, at the age of 83. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sheilagh Mylott; his children, Ginger Hardwick, Chuck Hardwick, Jr., and Austin Hardwick; and his grandchildren. Chuck Hardwick began his career working for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, which brought him to New Jersey. In 1977, Chuck was elected to the New Jersey State Assembly and served as Speaker of the Assembly from 1985 until 1990. During his tenure as a legislator, he fought to establish fairer tax policies, supported programs to help those struggling with gambling addiction, sponsored legislation to strengthen the rights of adoptees to access medical records, and advocated for legislation that would prevent strip searches for individuals charged with minor offenses. Following his tenure in the Legislature, Speaker Hardwick launched philanthropic programs worldwide as a top executive at Pfizer.

“Speaker Hardwick was a dedicated public servant and a significant force across our state,” **said Governor Murphy.** “We honor his legacy of compassion, philanthropy, and service and extend our heartfelt condolences to his loved ones. We remain forever grateful for his contributions to the people of New Jersey.”

For a copy of Executive Order No. 382, click [here](https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20250226/8c/43/d9/73/f07a5add6bdcb18d9e3b04cb/EO-382.pdf) (<https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20250226/8c/43/d9/73/f07a5add6bdcb18d9e3b04cb/EO-382.pdf>).

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