

IN SOLIDARITY



Name: John Crawford III

Dates: July 29, 1992-August 5, 2014

Place of Death: Beavercreek, OH

It is important to know that the state of Ohio has open carry laws; carrying a gun in view is not a crime. When John Crawford picked up an unpackaged BB/pellet air rifle at the sporting goods section and carried it to other departments of a Walmart near Dayton, he was doing nothing illegal. Another customer called 911 and reported that Mr. Crawford was brandishing a rifle. Later, the customer recanted his call. But later was too late. Officer Sean Williams, one of two responding officers, shot John Crawford in the arm and chest. John Crawford died in hospital. In reviewing the security footage, it was clear that at no time did he threaten others. After another review, his mother attested that there was no evidence that police ordered John to stop and drop the rifle.

John had a criminal record with minor offenses for marijuana possession and disorderly conduct. He worked odd jobs like telemarketing. Crawford III was a father to two sons with a former girlfriend. His then-girlfriend reported that prior to knowing that Crawford had died, Beavercreek police had harassed and grilled her to determine if John had brought the rifle into the Walmart. This young woman tragically died in a car crash only months later. A shopper, Angela Williams, died of a heart attack while fleeing the scene. Her death was ruled a homicide. There were no indictments in this case. The family filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Walmart and the Beavercreek police department. In May of 2020, a settlement for \$1.7 million was reached with the city. June 3, 2020.