



A Message
from the **PRESIDENT**

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.

Dear Yellow Jacket Nation:

Please join First Lady Toinette Jenkins and me as we pay tribute to The Honorable Damon J. Keith during a wreath laying ceremony in front of the Judge Damon J. Keith Scholars Hall at 11 a.m., on Friday, May 10, 2019. Judge Keith passed away on Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Following his graduation from West Virginia State in 1943, the Detroit, Michigan, native served in the U.S. Army during World War II. When he returned from the service, West Virginia State President William J. L. Wallace encouraged him to attend law school and work through the legal system to change civil rights laws. Judge Keith went on to graduate from the Howard University Law School in 1949 and Wayne State University Law School in 1956. He served more than five decades on the federal bench first as a U.S. District Court judge and later on the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Throughout his career, Judge Keith was an unwavering champion of civil rights.

Judge Keith last visited campus on Wednesday, August 14, 2014, for the dedication of the Judge Damon J. Keith Scholars Hall. During the ceremony, Judge Keith expressed deep gratitude for his alma mater and shared fond memories of his time on campus as a student.

A public visitation will be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on May 11 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit. A homegoing celebration will begin at 10 a.m. May 13 at Hartford Memorial Baptist Church in Detroit, by special visitation only.

Best regards,

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.
President

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