

**The Southwestern Law School Community Mourns the Loss of Trailblazing  
Alumna, Civic Leader,**

Justice Woods was born and raised in Los Angeles. After receiving her B.S. degree from Chapman College, she completed her J.D. degree at Southwestern and her LL.M. degree at the University of Virginia. At 22, she was the youngest woman, and the fourth Black woman, to be admitted to the California State Bar. She formed her own law practice before joining a firm that represented the United Auto Workers and several other large labor unions. Three years later, she was named a partner in the firm, then known as Levy, Koszdin & Woods, thus becoming the first Black woman in the United States to hold the position of senior partner in a major law firm.

In 1976, Justice Woods was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court. Three years later, when she became Supervising Judge of the Courts

safety, and legal ethics. She also co-authored the original Appellate Court Practice Manual for Law Clerks. Justice Woods frequently served as an instructor and guest speaker for the California Judicial College, the California Institute for Trial Advocacy Skills, the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of Southern California, and Southwestern Law School.

Justice Woods' numerous contributions to the legal profession and the community are reflected in the many honors bestowed on her by a variety of organizations. She was recognized as Appellate Justice of the Year by both the California and Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Associations, received the Bernard Jefferson Award for Judicial Excellence from the California Association of

Black Lawyers (CALBA) in 1992, and the 1997 (a)- .7 (a)- t)1.9 .7 (a)-e)g)-0.(o)-4 (nt (es)-0.9 -2.2 wg)1.1 (c)-1.39 (o)-4 d (l) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l) (m) (n) (o) (p) (q) (r) (s) (t) (u) (v) (w) (x) (y) (z) (aa) (ab) (ac) (ad) (ae) (af) (ag) (ah) (ai) (aj) (ak) (al) (am) (an) (ao) (ap) (aq) (ar) (as) (at) (au) (av) (aw) (ax) (ay) (az) (ba) (bb) (bc) (bd) (be) (bf) (bg) (bh) (bi) (bj) (bk) (bl) (bm) (bn) (bo) (bp) (bq) (br) (bs) (bt) (bu) (bv) (bw) (bx) (by) (bz) (ca) (cb) (cc) (cd) (ce) (cf) (cg) (ch) (ci) (cj) (ck) (cl) (cm) (cn) (co) (cp) (cq) (cr) (cs) (ct) (cu) (cv) (cw) (cx) (cy) (cz) (da) (db) (dc) (dd) (de) (df) (dg) (dh) (di) (dj) (dk) (dl) (dm) (dn) (do) (dp) (dq) (dr) (ds) (dt) (du) (dv) (dw) (dx) (dy) (dz) (ea) (eb) (ec) (ed) (ee) (ef) (eg) (eh) (ei) (ej) (ek) (el) (em) (en) (eo) (ep) (eq) (er) (es) (et) (eu) (ev) (ew) (ex) (ey) (ez) (fa) (fb) (fc) (fd) (fe) (ff) (fg) (fh) (fi) (fj) (fk) (fl) (fm) (fn) (fo) (fp) (fq) (fr) (fs) (ft) (fu) (fv) (fw) 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But most of all, Arleigh was my very dear friend, and I will miss her warmth, her wit, and her wisdom."

In recognition of her many contributions to the law school and the legal profession, Justice Woods was honored by Southwestern's Alumni Association as the first recipient of the Outstanding Judicial Officer award in 1987, and was named Alumna of the Year in 1995. She received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the law school in 2005.

According to Bryant Garth, also Dean Emeritus at Southwestern and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at University of California–Irvine School of Law, "All of Arleigh's pathbreaking professional achievements—including so many firsts—cement her place in the history of Los Angeles. But from my perspective as Dean at Southwestern, working with her as Board leader, I will never forget her extraordinary warmth, humor, and grace, which made every interaction with her special."

Justice Woods moved to Battleground, Washington, in 1996. She was preceded in death by William T. Woods, her husband of more than 60 years. She is survived by nephew Euclid L. Taylor, Jr. (wife BJ; son Dale).

A memorial service, to be led by Hon. Kathryn Doi Todd in honor of Justice Woods, will be held as a Zoom gathering on Justice Woods' birthday, Wednesday, August 31, 2022 me -0.8 (e)Btore,ad3 (o)-244 72 .