

have the luxury of slowing down. He was a young father with a family to feed. So, after leaving school, he started working three jobs to pay the bills.

One of those jobs was at a gas station across the street from Comiskey Park. As fate would have it, that job ended up changing Larry's life. It was while working at that gas station that he struck up a friendship with a regular customer—a young lawyer named Joe Power. After becoming friends, Joe encouraged Larry to finish law school and even recruited him to the law firm where he worked.

It was the beginning of a 40-year friendship and professional partnership. Together, Larry and Joe founded a personal injury law and medical malpractice firm that has become an institution in Chicago and throughout the legal world: Power Rogers, LLP.

Soon after he began his career as a trial attorney, Larry swiftly emerged as a mastermind in the courtroom, as well as a champion pugilist in the fight for justice. In the words of his son, Larry Jr., Larry Sr. was, "the Michael Jordan of law before Michael Jordan was the Michael Jordan of basketball."

Well, it is true. Back in 1985, for instance, Larry Sr. won the largest personal injury verdict in Illinois history—an eight-figure verdict for families who had been wronged by a baby formula company, which had sold chloride-deficient formula and hindered the intellectual development of babies consuming it. Fifteen years later, Larry made legal history once again: He won a \$55 million verdict for a woman who had suffered brain damage during a bronchoscopy exam; it was the largest medical malpractice verdict that went to judgement in our State's history.

Larry's record in the courtroom is remarkable. In just four decades, he won major verdicts for victims of medical malpractice, motor vehicle negligence, aviation accident cases, and more.

And with every victory, Larry didn't just climb the next rung of the professional ladder; he looked back and offered a helping hand to young lawyers hoping to follow his lead.

Larry paid his success forward in mentorship, guidance, and support for African-American students and attorneys who had long been excluded from the legal world. And nobody was better positioned to recruit a new generation of change makers than Larry. After all, he served as the president of the Cook County Bar Association—CCBA—the first African-American president of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association—ITLA—and was awarded an endless list of accolades. He was even named one of the top 500 trial lawyers in the entire country.

But above all, Larry was a dedicated and loving father and grandfather. He instilled in his family the same values he learned from his own Mom, like a strong work ethic and a deep commitment to serving others. And Larry never pressured his kids to follow him into the legal career; he simply encour-

aged them to pursue their passions like he did: with diligence and determination.

Still, Larry's example as an accomplished and principled lawyer had a strong influence on his children. Some years after Larry made history as the first African-American president of the ITLA, another young trailblazer followed in his footsteps: Larry Rogers Jr.—the second-ever African-American president of the ITLA. Like his Dad, Larry Jr. also became the president of the CCBA and, eventually, a partner at Power Rogers.

I have seen for myself how Larry Jr. has followed his Dad's example, especially in his commitment to uplifting other, young attorneys of color.

Altogether, there are now three generations of legal professionals in the Rogers family. Besides Larry Jr., there is his brother, Dom—an injury attorney—and his sister, Ann Marie—a court reporter. Additionally, Larry Sr.'s stepson Frederic is also a lawyer, along with his niece Carmen, his nephew, Sean, and his grandson, Trevor. And there is another star attorney on the way, too: Larry Sr.'s granddaughter, Erin, was recently accepted to several law schools.

For those of us who knew Larry outside the courtroom, we will always remember his love of Chicago sports as well as his intrepid spirit. He was season ticket holder for both the Bulls and the Bears.

And he was the captain of his very own Sea Ray sport boat. Larry would often invite friends and family to join him on vacations to Lake Michigan, Florida, and even the Bahamas—a testament to his generosity and eagerness to spread joy to those he loved.

In the musical "Hamilton", legacy is defined as "planting seeds in a garden you never get to see."

While Larry Rogers Sr. may no longer be with us, I am absolutely certain that the seeds he has planted—as a lawyer, mentor, father, and grandfather—will be blossoming for generations to come.

Chicago—and the entire legal profession—is better because of Larry Rogers Sr.'s lifetime of service.

Loretta and I join Larry's life partner Pam, his children and stepchildren—Larry, Jr., Dom, Anne Marie, and Frederic—along with all of his nieces, nephews, and grandchildren in mourning his loss. Thank you all for carrying his remarkable legacy forward.

#### ARGENTINA

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, January 27, 2023, marks the 200th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States of America and Argentina. In 1823, President James Monroe named Caesar Rodney of Delaware as Minister Plenipotentiary to the United Provinces of the Rio de la Plata.

The longstanding friendship between our two countries is underpinned by

the strong cultural and familial ties which unite our peoples. The relationship is further enriched by the many unique contributions of Argentinians to the United States. Both countries are democracies, working continuously to strengthen our institutions and political inclusion.

Argentina provides crucial contributions to hemispheric security and stability, including counterterrorism, defense, and law enforcement cooperation. It is a valued partner for the United States in tackling the climate crisis and global health challenges and serves as an example for the region and the world in supporting expanded economic prosperity and equality, including for women and disadvantaged populations.

Argentina is further admired for its leadership in promoting human rights and the dignity of all people, including of LGBTQI+ persons. Both the United States and Argentina are dedicated to maintaining a strong middle class and the importance of independent unions and labor rights. We are together increasing mutual understanding and friendship between our peoples through educational exchanges including our binational Fulbright Commission.

Argentina remains a trusted and desirable destination for world-class tourism and for trade opportunities with the United States and is recognized for being a leader in sports through the example set by its FIFA World Cup champions. Argentina's three World Cup victories have inspired generations of athletes.

Argentina's cultural, economic, and political contributions to the region and to the world are invaluable. We must continue to build towards an ever stronger relationship between Argentina and the United States.

#### CHILE

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, in 1823, President James Monroe named Heman Allen of Vermont as the United States' Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to Chile. January 27, 2023, therefore marks the 200th anniversary of official relations between the United States and Chile. Today, Chile is a regional leader and trusted partner in promoting democracy, human rights, economic stability, environmental protection, and advancing equitable and sustainable development.

Chile and the United States cooperate at the highest levels to promote peace, security, and democracy in the Americas and throughout the world and have a long history of strong cooperation on science and technology.

2023 also marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the U.S.-Chile Free Trade Agreement that continues to bring increased prosperity to the American and Chilean peoples. In 1955, Chile and the United States established the region's first and oldest bilateral Fulbright Commission to exchange knowledge and expertise.