

October 18, 2021

Statement by James Dandridge II, President of DACOR, Inc.

The passing of General Colin Powell today is a sad day for our nation and especially for those of us who served with him and admired him as a military leader and a statesman. Our thoughts are with his wife Alma and his son Michael and daughters Linda and Annemarie.

Gen. Powell's military service -- from an ROTC student at City College of New York to two tours of duty in Vietnam as a young Army infantry officer to the White House as National Security Advisor to President Reagan and at the Pentagon as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under President George H.W. Bush – was excellent preparation for his appointment as Secretary of State in 2000 by President George W. Bush. His years of military service made him an exceptional Secretary of State, the highest rank in civilian government ever held by an African American at that time. His evident concern for the "rank and file" members of the Foreign Service and Civil Service at the State Department inspired high morale and dedication.

As a soldier and diplomat, he engendered enormous respect and affection from those who worked for him. He will be remembered not only for his leadership but also for his humility and his love for our country.

