The American Judges Association (AJA), the largest Judicial organization in North America and the voice of the Judiciary, joins the nation and the world in mourning the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The AJA sends our prayers and condolences to her family and hope they find some comfort in the legacy and memories she left behind. We affectionately remember her as “Notorious RBG,” a moniker she was proud to share with the late rapper, Notorious B.I.G., because they were both “straight out of Brooklyn.”

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a judicial icon who changed the world for American women in her lifelong mission for gender equality. She worked tirelessly to break down the roles that society assigns to women and men by using the Constitution, her impartial and fair mind, and her understanding of justice. Her dissent in the Lilly Ledbetter case led to President Barack Obama signing the Lilly Ledbetter equal pay act into law.

She was the second woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court. She was a champion of equal rights for women – and all people regardless of sex, gender identity, race, color, creed, or national origin. She was brilliant and strategic, wise and just, and her commanding presence and fair insight will be missed. Her love of the law made her a beloved jurist and an inspiration to many across the world.

Ruth Bader Ginsberg was a mother, a United States Supreme Court Justice, and a wife – three jobs that would be daunting and close to impossible for anyone. Yet, she was unwavering in her advancement of equality, no matter the barriers and social norms she confronted.

Let us honor her by continuing her mission toward equality in all facets of our American lives and remind ourselves that even the smallest figure can command a mighty presence and change our world. In honor of Justice Ginsburg’s memory, the AJA affirms our commitment to advancing equal justice for all. Thank you, RBG.