

## The Association of Black Psychologists Celebrates the Life-Long Legacy of Congressmen Julian Bond and Louis Stokes



We mourn the loss of Congressman Julian Bond, an African American social activist and a leader in the Civil Rights Movement. He inspired and enlightened people of all ages with his message of confidence and insight into the heritage and struggles of African American people. He reminded us of the strength and intellect displayed during bondage as well as the contributions made by African Americans to the growth of this nation. While a student at Morehouse College, he helped to establish the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committees. He also provided leadership in the NAACP that helped correct injustices that were directed at African Americans and other people of color who had difficulties protecting themselves from injustices perpetuated by political, educational and justice systems in

America. He provided spiritual, moral and intellectual leadership to a nation and a world in need of a new direction.

In the tradition of our African culture we celebrate Julian Bond as an ancestor and as a most beloved Civil Rights Leader.



We also mourn the loss of Congressman Louis Stokes, one of the most brilliant and greatest statesmen in the history of this country. Even during his retirement, Congressman Stokes demonstrated his commitment to the continued improvement and enhancement of the minds of African Americans and of people of African descent throughout the Diaspora. His commitment and dedication to uplifting African people was evident in the Keynote Address he provided at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual International Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist (ABPsi) held in Cleveland, Ohio in 2005.

Congressman Louis Stokes was the first black congressman elected in the state of Ohio, and in 1968 he became the first African American Congressman elected from a major city in the United States of America. He also served 15 terms in the United States House of Representatives. His impact on the well-being of the people of district and U.S. has been long lasting.

A courageous, smart, committed political leader with great acumen for addressing the needs of persons of African ancestry, Congressman Louis Stokes will long be remembered for all that he has done to serve and uphold his people. In the tradition of our African cultural heritage we celebrate the eternal ancestral spirit of Congressman Louis Stokes as he lives within us. We also celebrate the triumphs in the life of Congressman Louis Stokes as he lived with us.