Spring Senior Class Toast Remarks  
Thursday, May 3 at 6 p.m.  
Spartan Greens

President’s Remarks

Good evening and congratulations to the Class of 2018! You’ve made it! With your graduation on Saturday, you will become the newest members of the Norfolk State University alumni family of more than 34,000 strong. You should be confident in knowing that Norfolk State has prepared you well and that you can proudly take your place among the Spartans who have come before you.

You have been imbued with the knowledge, skills and abilities to meet the challenges of the world and to overcome them with intellect and determination. This is an important occasion for you, your family and this University because it strengthens your family legacy and the legacy of Norfolk State.

Your graduation is a result of the challenges and sacrifices made by your parents and loved ones. Today, you represent everything that is good and honorable in your family, community and this great institution. I could not be prouder of each and every one of you.

On Saturday, you will become members of the Norfolk State University Alumni Association. Your membership lays the foundation for an enduring relationship with your alma mater. One that not only perpetuates your pride as a Norfolk State graduate, but also helps ground you as an individual.

There will be difficult days ahead, but on those days, I ask that you remember this moment. Remember how proud you feel, remember the beaming pride shown by your loved ones, and remember that you can accomplish any goal you seek to achieve. So, now I raise my glass and salute your excellence. [Raise wine glass]

− To your family and all who have made this journey possible;
− To the good you will do for others;
– To the success and prosperity that you will enjoy; and,
– To the history that you will make as prominent alumni!

Again, I say congratulations to you and I wish you all the best. And as always, BEHOLD, THE GREEN & GOLD!