

About the Kaiden Enjoli Scholarship Endowment

Dear alumni, faculty and staff,

I wanted to share information with you about a new scholarship that has been established here in the School of Dental Medicine and invite you to make a gift in support of this unique effort. Many of you know Dr. Velvet Enjoli Martin '19 and Dr. Cornelius Martin '19. During your interactions with Velvet, you probably noticed her strength, gentleness and compassion. As many of you know, those traits comes from being a caring mother to Kaiden Enjoli during her dental school years. Kaiden was born with hydranencephaly and was given a mere two months to live. However, surrounded by the love of her parents, grandparents and aunts and uncles, she proved to have a much bigger purpose to fulfill. Although she could not walk or talk and could not reach the developmental milestones of an able-bodied child, Kaiden was blessed to have a full and fulfilled eight years of life. She served as a beacon of hope and a source of joy to all who knew her. Kaiden means “warrior,” and a warrior she was.



Dr. Martin’s daughter lost her fight during Velvet’s D4 year—a difficult challenge at any point, but even more so during her time at the ECU School of Dental Medicine. Drs. Martin have created a scholarship in memory of Kaiden to honor her fight and to recognize the challenge that all parents face when they experience the loss of a child or spouse, especially during their dental education.

This scholarship, when fully funded, will be used to help future dental students that lose a child or spouse or experience some significant health hardship. We know that will not happen every year, so the school will also have the ability to award accumulated earnings to a single parent as needed. Regardless of the recipient, the scholarship will not be replacement for the loved one that is lost or the time spent caring for an ailing spouse or child, but it will be a great opportunity to encourage these future students to be strong, to be a warrior and to persevere toward completion of their dental education.

If you would like to make a gift to this fund, please make checks payable to the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation, referencing the “Kaiden Enjoli Scholarship Endowment” in the memo line and send it in the enclosed envelope or to the address above. We will share a list of contributors to this worthwhile legacy with the Martins, unless you prefer to remain anonymous. If you have any questions or want to make a gift in a different way (credit card or payroll deduction), please feel free to contact me at 252-737-7063 or email jonesjona19@ecu.edu.

Thank you for your continued support of the ECU School of Dental Medicine.

Sincerely,

Jon Jones

Senior Director of Advancement