

60th Anniversary of Dr. Wendell Gunn's 1963 Entry to Florence State College
Remarks by President Ken Kitts
September 11, 2023

Good morning, everyone. I'm joined today by D

Ladies and gentlemen, I just described Dr. Wendell Gunn. Now Wendell is quick to point out that he didn't come here to change the world. He just wanted a good education. But in so doing he unwittingly became the protagonist in the story of how Alabama's oldest university desegregated without the disruption and violence that occurred elsewhere.

As with any good drama, Wendell had a strong supporting cast around him. There were his parents, Marshall and Mattie Gunn, who raised remarkable children with the heart to succeed and the toughness to rise to challenges. There was Fred Gray, the brilliant civil rights attorney, who used his kno