



## **Kenneth Woodard**

Class of 2019

Kenneth Woodard, a native of Detroit, Michigan, attended Martin Luther King High School lettering in football, swimming, and track. He earned All City and All State Awards before graduating with honors. Woodard accepted a football scholarship to Tuskegee Institute in 1978, and was a 4-year letterman as a defensive linebacker. In his freshman year against FAMU, he started the second half, a position he never relinquished during the remainder of his career. He was the undisputed Captain of the Golden Tigers defense for 3-years. Honored by Jet Magazine for his performance in the Morehouse Classic, Woodard, aka Black Stallion, was acknowledged in Sports Illustrated Magazine as “Who the Pros like in Small College” after consistently bench pressing 450 lbs. and running a 4.5 40 yard dash on grass. After his senior season, he became the first and only Golden Tiger player selected to play in the Blue Gray All Star Game. In 1981, he was also selected to play in the Sheridan All Star Game, named to the “Sheridan All American Team”, and the SIAC All-Conference Football Team.

Woodard was drafted by the Denver Broncos in the 10<sup>th</sup> round of the 1982 NFL Draft. He played with the Broncos from 1982-1986 and played in Super Bowl XXI. He also played for the Pittsburgh Steelers (1987) and the San Diego Chargers (1988-90). Woodard retired from the NFL after a 9-year career.

Woodard returned to Tuskegee to complete his degree after a successful career as a professional athlete. He earned his B.S. degree in Construction Science Management from Tuskegee Univ. in May 2019. He also is a member of the Sigma Lambda Chi-Honor Society, MU II Chapter.

Woodard’s community involvement includes the facilitation of the Tuskegee Pro-Football Camp from 1983-87; the Macon County Pro-Football Camp in 2018 and was a Co-founder of Skegee Golden Tigers (SGT) with the late Captain Ron Gilmore. He is a supporter of the BTW High School and On Campus “Reach One Teach One”.

Woodard resides in Tuskegee and credits his success to the support from his mother, Mamie Woodard, and his late father, Walter Woodard, along with his siblings and family.