Left – Kristy Choi poses for a photo in front of the graduation stage with (l. to r.) her mom, Bo Kyung; her cousin, Daniel; and her dad, Chol Ho.

Right – Kat Racz waves to family and friends during the recessional.

Left – Recent graduates of Georgia Law eagerly wait for the ceremony to end to join family members and friends on the Stegeman Coliseum floor.

Above – Graduation is definitely a family affair. Here, Stuart Douglas is surrounded by (l. to r.) his wife, Keri; his five-month-old son, Ethan; his daughter, Kylie; his mother, CeCilia; and his nephew, Ryan.

View more photos from this year’s commencement at www.law.uga.edu/photo-gallery.
Above – Terry Morris has his picture taken with his mom, Kimberlynne. Right – Doyle Johnson tosses his two-year-old daughter Eve in the air before the ceremony.

Class of 2013 President Jordan Arkin (right) and Class of 2013 Vice President Kelsey Donnalley (second from right), who both co-chaired the Legacy Gift Committee, presented Law School Association Immediate Past-president J. Tom Morgan (J.D.’80) and Dean Rebecca White with a check pledging $61,975 to support law school programs and services.

Serving as the keynote speaker for this year’s commencement ceremony was Judge Beverly B. Martin of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit.

Martin, who graduated from Georgia Law in 1981, spoke to the Class of 2013 about the great heritage of the alumni body to which they now belong.

“It is such a privilege for me to welcome you into the family of Georgia Law graduates, and it’s a remarkable family,” Martin said.

She listed examples of prestigious leadership positions Georgia Law alumni have held throughout the years such as serving as state governors, as members of the U.S. House and Senate, as state attorneys general and as members of local, state and federal judiciaries.

“You will go on to populate these same positions, and this is such a good thing because you are graduating now at a time when we need your leadership in government, in our communities and in our businesses,” Martin said.

She also imparted some wisdom she has gained during her career by watching her Georgia Law “brothers and sisters” who know how to be good lawyers.

While citing various examples, Martin encouraged members of the Class of 2013 to take every opportunity to hone their legal skills no matter how humble the opportunities might be, to trust their instincts, to serve the public and to be passionate about helping those less fortunate.

She also reminded them that a law degree is a gift and said she looks forward to seeing how they use that gift in the years to come.