



Raymond Duke Moore (1915-2003)

Founder of Zen Budokai Organization

10th Degree Black Belt
7th Dan in the AKKO



Professor Moore's Market St. Dojo

Born in San Francisco in 1915, Mr. Moore was a boxer and wrestler in his high school years when he became interested in the martial arts, which he began studying in the 1930s. For many years Mr. Moore had a gym on Market Street. He also taught martial arts at Stanford University, from which he retired in 1980, and gave lessons in self-defense to state correctional officers. Mr. Moore formed the American Teachers Association of the Martial Arts and, in 1961, established his own school, known worldwide as the Zen Budokai system of martial arts

Duke's Dojo in San Francisco early 1950s

In 1947-8, Duke and Ray Law and others founded the American Judo and Ju Jitsu Federation.

Co-founders were Bud Estes, Johnny Cahill Sr. And Dick Rickets. In 1950 Duke Moore resigned because a motion was passed to restrict membership to blackbelt graduates of Henry Okosaka system. Duke founded a system was opened to all advocates of the martial arts and produced many judo champions like Vince Larat, Tony Trouche, Dick Blattes, Bill Godfrey, Del and Dino Esposti, Ivo Rejo and Don Buck.

These men and women helped further Duke's knowledge of both Judo and Ju Jitsu. Nationally famed Mitz Kimura introduced himself to Duke in 1946.

He had recently been discharged from the LA detention camps where most of the people of Japanese ancestry were constrained for the duration of World War II. Kimura was immediately hired by Duke as his associate; but more important, as Duke's teacher. Duke's Aiki Ju Jitsu course is comprised of Kodokan jujitsu taught to Duke by Prof. Kimura. Great teachers from all over the world were checking into Duke's school, which had now moved up to upper Market St.





And became the fountain head of blackbelters graduated by duke In 1943 having learned Ray Law's requirements for blackbelt degree (Yawara, shime, Oku, and Shinin). Duke traveled to New York to study Judo randori under George Yoshida.

While he was there, he studied Aiki-Ju Jitsu under the renowned Henri Nikai. After winning his judo blackbelt in competition, Duke returned to San Francisco and opened up his 1st martial arts dojo . His school ,on Divisadero St. Was the largest of it's kind in the US and attracted many blackbelt Judo and Ju Jitsu visitors .



In 1957 the legendary Mas Oyama was hired By Duke Moore and Don Buck one of his blackbelter to teach the Oyama's Kyokushin system of Karate. In 1962, Duke invited Prof. Nishiyama up from L.A. to teach him and 20 of his blackbelts he shotokan system of karate. Duke , together with Richard "Biggie" Kim, Walter Todd, and Del De Esposti, formed the Northern California Karate Federation which sponsored Nishiyama Shotokan tournament which was held at S.F. Kesar Pavilion. the stadium was packed.



In 1965 Duke and Biggie Kim trained 20 of Dukes blackbelts karate and awarded them there their blackbelt degrees in Shorin-gi-ryu karate. He trained Duke privately and Duke earned his 7th dan in Aiki-Ju Jitsu, 4th dan in Jud and 4th in karate in 1966. In 1973 Duke moved to Mt View CA . and began teaching mixed Judo, Ju Jitsu and Karate at Stanford University. 2 outstanding students graduated to become high ranking professors of the martial arts. Tim Delgman and James Moses. In 1981 Duke left Stanford to form the American Teachers Of The Martial Arts (ATTAMA) which bloomed to become an international organization



In 1990 Duke moved to Sacramento where he immediately began teaching most of the major karate teachers the Zen Budokai system of martial art. Some of his best students were Fred Buck (son of legendary Don Buck), Tim Flanagan, Hank Langley, Rocky Ryan, Gary Garrett , Lisa and Scott Garrett, and James Coffman.

To this date Duke still focuses on Judo and Ju Jitsu skills and holds teaching seminars to any school lacking in these skills. He was 85 yr. old April 19, 2000.

Raymond Duke Moore, Judan

This above history page was written by Raymond "Duke" Moore on March 1, 1996.



In 1990 the Ken Studies Institute of Calabasas conferred upon Duke an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree for his many humanitarian accomplishments and publications. Dukes books include the following many of which have changed titles.

**Holistic Meditation: A matter of survival
Last of the Buddhas
The Tigress of Holy City
The Prize Fighter and the Shrink Zen...
The First Martial Art
The Fighting Spirit of Zen**



Raymond (Duke) Moore was preceded in death by his wife, Vera of nearly 50 years, and his brothers, Donald and Richard. He is survived by his companion of the past seven years, Olga Compton, and her children and so many Students and friends through out the World.

**An Internationally known teacher
Professor**

Raymond (Duke) Moore

of martial arts, Passed away.

Feb. 25, 2003

in Sacramento. He was 87.

We will all miss you SIR!!!