

GOLD

DAVID CANTRELL.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

David started his Martial Arts in 1973 under Grandmaster Harold Long. He received his first Black Belt in 1978. He opened his first school in 1980. He is a member of the Okinawan Karate Do Union. He has also studied the Combat Cane and Pressure Points under George Dillman. He currently holds 6th Degree Black Belt in Isshin Ryu.

ANTHONY CHAVEZ.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Chavez is a member of The Hana Dai Ichi Karate Association and The United States Karate Alliance. He has received the John Edgar Hoover Award for Distinguished Public Service. He has also received a Certificate of Appreciation for Extraordinary Performance. He has been studying the Martial Arts for 40 years and holds a 6th Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do under Master Mike Lubarsky. Anthony is an active Instructor at the Los Lunas Tae Kwon Do in New Mexico.

GARY COX.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Cox is a member of the Utah Black Belt Club. He has studied Wado Ryu, Tracy Kenpo and was in the US Army Special Forces for 12 years. He has been involved in the Martial Arts for more than 45 years. At the age of 71 he holds an 8th Degree Black Belt in American Kenpo. He has received School of the Year for 10 years. For the past 12 years he has had the most Competitors in tournament competition. He has coached National and International Champions. He is the co-owner of Kiai Martial Arts in Murray, Utah.

LAURA LEA COX.....DISTINGUISHED MASTER

Mrs. Cox is a member of the Utah Black Belt League and The Native American Pow Wow Committee. She holds a 7th Degree Black Belt in American Kenpo. She has competed in SKI and NBL Tournaments. She has won 1st place in Kata, Creative Kata, Self Defense and Sparring, winning her both National and International Titles. She has been in the Martial Arts for 38 years. She is co-owner of Kiai Martial Arts.

STEVEN DIRTON.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Dirton is a 7th Degree Black Belt under Grandmaster Dan Frazier. He has been teaching Kajukembo in South Carolina for over 40 years. Mr. Dirton has produced over 30 Black Belt and has taught over 2000 student in his community. During his competitive days, he was considered one of the best fighters in South Carolina becoming a 6 time Heavy Weight Champion, over the course of his career.

PAUL DYER.....GRANDMASTER

Mr. Dyer is a 8th Dan in the style of Kenpo Karate. He has also studied Qi-Gong, Shaolin Kung-Fu, Chi Na, Shotokan, Tai Chi, Kali, and Ju-Jitsu and is the Vice President of the International Kenpo Karate Academies. Mr. Dyer is the regional director of the International Martial Arts Union, a member of the Black Dragon Fighting Society, the International Martial Arts Association Organization, and the United States Martial Artist Association of North Dakota. He has been a Hall of Fame Inductee of the United States Martial Artist Association. He has opened his own dojo, Dakota Dragon Defense in Fargo.

ROBBY EVANS.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Robby has been in the Martial Arts for 38 years. He holds an 8th Degree Black Belt in Okamoto Ryu Kenpo. He also holds a 7th Degree Black Belt in Genkotsu Ryu Yamashiro Jiu-Jitsu and is a Master of Kenjutsu He has also studied Judo, Bushido Kempo, Goju Ryu Karate, Shorinryu Karate, Tae Kwon Do and Hapkido.

ALFRED GAGNE.....MASTER

Mr. Gagne began his Martial Arts training while serving in the US Air Force in 1968. He obtained his 1st Degree Black Belt in Matsumura Orthodox Shorinryu Karate on Oct 1, 1972. He is an expert in the Art of Okinawan Weapons. He currently holds a 6th Degree Black Belt under Master James Coffman.

MICHAEL GLEY.....JUJITSU INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Mr. Gley holds a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Dan Zan Ryu Jujitsu as developed by Professor Henry Okazaki. He is a member of the American Judo and Jujitsu Federation. He started his Jujitsu training in 1969. He has been in the Arts for 44 years, with over 30 years of teaching experience. He has taught Jujitsu in Arizona since 2003.

RAY HUGHES.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Hughes is the owner of Scottsdale Martial Arts Center with an enrollment of around 300 students. His school is the oldest and largest Martial Arts School in the Scottsdale, Arizona area. Mr. Hughes started training in Wado Karate in 1976 under the instruction of Sensei Marlon Moore. He currently holds the Rank of 7th Degree Black Belt awarded to him by the USA Karate-Do KyoKai with Sensei Chuck Merriman, Sensei Lee Gray and Sensei Robert Hunt on the testing board. He has an extensive competition career that covered the 1970's through the 2000's. He competed in local and regional competitions and was on 5 USA Karate Teams.

ANTHONY IBARRA JR.LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Mr. Ibarra is currently celebration 41 years in the Martial Arts and he is a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Wado Ryu Karate as well as Kei Nori Ashi Ryu Jitsu. He has also studied Tae Kwon Do, Shotokan, American Kenpo, Judo and American Boxing. He is currently in his 30th year as a Texas Peace Officer. Mr. Ibarra is a Certified Instructor for the Human Factor Research Group Pressure Point Control Tactics, Defensive Tactics and Ground Avoidance Ground Escape. He has trained numerous officers throughout the Texas region.

BRADLEY KREHEL.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Krehel has been training in the Martial Arts since 1970. He has studied Judo, JuJitsu, Taekwondo, Boxing, Tai Chi Qigong and Tang Soo Do. He is an accomplished competitor and has received National and International awards from the Professional / Ameateur Karate League, PRO/AM National Circuit and with KRANE Rating International. In 1994, he was a member of the USA Karate Team that traveled to China, Hong Kong and Korea. When America was attacked on September 11, 2001, Mr Krehel decided to commit his life to teaching the art of Tang Soo Do and founded Kid Soo Do, a Youth organization dedicated to providing a comprehensive Self Defense Karate Program.

ALVIN LYE.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Lye is the current Vice President of World Goju Ryu Karate Do Federation and President of the Asian Goju Ryu Karate Do Federation. He has been training in Karate since 1970. In 1986 he went to Japan to train under Gogen Yamaguchi. Since then he has been attending training in Japan under the IKGA. He has been training in Goju for 43 years. He currently holds the rank of 9th Degree Black Belt.

RON MAREK.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Marek started training in the Martial Arts in 1969. He has trained in Judo, Shotokan, Tae Kwon Do and Kenpo Karate. He has been inducted into 6 Hall of Fames and currently holds a 6th Dan in Tae Kwon Do and a 10th Dan in Bushido Kenpo. Dr Marek was awarded the "Top Martial Arts School" in 1995 by Martial Arts Business Association for being one of the largest Kenpo Karate schools in the southwestern United States. His school had more than 230 active students, even though there were 36 competing martial arts schools in a 5-mile radius. Since that time Dr. Marek has founded the International Kenpo Karate Federation and the US Grand Masters Council to help other martial artists earn the ranks they deserve and to become financially successful in teaching their chosen martial arts system.

SHELDON MARR.....COACH OF THE YEAR

Mr. Marr started training in Judo in 1964 at the age of 5, under his father Wally Marr, a well know Judo Instructor. By the age of 17, Sheldon was a Junior National Judo Champion and a California State Wrestling Champion. In 1982 he was selected to the US Olympic Judo Training Squad. Then moving to the Denver area, he started teaching Varsity Wrestling, winning 6 District and Regional team titles, 12 State Champions, and 40 State medalists. Sheldon has coached National Champions in Judo, Pankration and NCAA Champions in Wrestling. His Team Edge are US National Jujitsu and or Grappling Team Champions from 1996 through 2013.

ROBERT MITCHELL.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Mitchell started taking Martial Arts in the early 1960's. In 1971 he received his Black Belt from Grandmaster Ed Parker in American Kenpo. During his competitive time, he was a very respected fighter, winning his share of State and International Competitions. In the 1970's Mr. Mitchell was awarded Fighter of the Year at the IKKA Awards Banquet. In 1975 he was honored by Black Belt magazine by being put on the cover of their annual year book addition. He is currently the promoter of United Martial Artist for Christ. He holds the Rank of 8th degree Black Belt.

ANTHONY NOTARO.....SHIHAN OF THE YEAR

Mr. Nataro holds the rank of 6th degree Black Belt and the Title of Shihan in the Art of Yoshitsune Jujutsu and a 4th Degree in Hakko Ryu Jujutsu. He has studied Judo, Ryukyu Kempo, Okinawan Karate, Kenpo, Arnis and Aikido. He is a member of the American Jujutsu Association, Federation of United Martial Artist, International Federation of Jujutsuans and Hakko Ryu Jujutsu Association. He has been studying the Martial Arts for 40 years.

BRIANT PETERSON.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Peterson has been in the Martial arts for 40 years. He trains and studies in the Art of Bushido Kai Karate Jutsu. He holds a 3rd Degree Black Belt under Master Johnny Murphy. He has also studied Shotokan, NiHan Karate and Kyokai. He is a member of the Japanese Karate Association, the ISKF and the ASKF. He is an active Instructor at Champions Bushido Houston Nationals Karate.

MELVIN RIVERA.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Being accepted by Austin Box

Sifu Melvin Rivera began his early Martial Art journey in Hawaii in 1960 while practicing the art of Judo. He also served in the United States Military Armed Forces serving tours in Viet Nam. (He was decorated/awarded militarily for his contributions.) His main instruction came at the hands of Sifu Thomas Enfield studying the Chinese Kung Fu. Mr. Rivera has also trained with Kempo Karate, various forms of Kung Fu, Tai Chi Chuan (Yang Style) and other effective unorthodox fighting systems while living in Hawaii. In 1978, Mr. Rivera relocated to Colorado Springs and began his formal teaching Tai-Ken-Tao Kung Fu combining Chinese Kenpo Karate with Mr. Vic Sauget. Recognizing some of their top students; Robert Hill, Noel Menzano and Sifu Raymond Bennett of Colorado Springs. Following in 1983, he together with Sensei Wayne Smith established the Sogo Ken Karate Jitsu Dojo through the guidance of Kazuo Nakajima. The Sogo Ken Dojo was part of the Hana Dai Ichi Karate Association under Hanshi Austin Box. Mr. Rivera and his students were established tournament competitors from 1980 until his retirement 1985 following his Grand Championship at the Rocky Mountain Nationals. Known for his 'Drunken Monkey' form he was highly ranked in Soft Style Forms and Chinese Weapons. He has since returned to his Aloha state of Hawaii and continues to support Hanshi Box and the Hana Dai Ichi Association. He shares his United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame Induction with his family, wife Mercy, daughter Pam, and plenty dear friends.

DAN ROBERTS.....FOUNDER

Mr. Roberts trains and studies the Art of Yong Moo Kwan Tae Kwon Do and holds the rank of 9th Degree Black Belt under Grandmaster Hong Sun Lee. He has also studied Tang Soo Do, Hapkido, Goju Ryu, San Ku Kai Karate and American Kempo. He has been training in the Martial Arts for 50 years. He is a member of WTF, Korean Moo Duk Kwan, World Traditional Tang Soo Do Federation, and The Black Knights Karate Association. Mr. Roberts teaches private lessons and is the Founder of the Art Soo Bak Kee Mu Sool.

PETER ROSE.....GRANDMASTER

Mr. Rose began his Karate training in 1968 in Shudokan Karate under the National karate association. In 1970 Mr Rose received his 1st Degree Black Belt in Shudo-Kan Karate under Grandmaster S.A. Brock.

JAMES ROSENBACH.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Rosenbach holds a 10th Degree Black Belt under Grandmaster Robert Bussay and Jim Thomas. He has studied Hapkido, Tae Kwon Do, Jujitsu, Ninjitsu, Judo and Robert Bussay Warrior Internatinal Sytem. He has been in the Martial Arts for more than 40 years.

FRANCISCO SANTIAGO III.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Santiago holds the Rank of 7th degree Black Belt in Shorei Goju-Jutsu under Shihan Julio Ortiz. He has studied Wing Chun, Eagle Claw Kung Fu and Ninpo Tai Jitsu. He is a member of the AKA, Bujinkan. He has received various Military Awards for his service in Afghanistan. He has been training in the Martial Arts for 40 years.

FRANK SASSO.....DISTINGUISHED MASTER

Mr. Sasso began his Martial Arts career in 1969. At the age of 72, he holds a 7th Degree Black Belt in the Art of Goju Shorei Karate under O'Sensei Ken Knudsen. He has also studied Kung Fu and Tai Chi. He is a member of the ASKA and the USKA. He is an active Instructor at the Goju Shorei Karate Academy.

JIRO SHIROMA.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Being accepted by OJ Guerra

Sensei Shiroma was born in Okinawa, Japan. He began his study of Shuri-te at the age of 13 under Master Kanji Inaiuku. At the age of 15 he began to study Kendo. He received his first Black Belt in Kendo at the age of 18. At the age of 20 he started training under Shugoro Nakazato, 10th Degree Black Belt and President of Okinawan Shorin-Ryu Karate Do Association. In 1968nher received his 6th Degree Black Belt and Instructor Certificate. In 1973 he opened a Karate school in Ginowan City, Okinawa and began teaching. In 1977 he moved to the US and opened Arizona Martial Arts Academy in Phoenix. He has taught Martial Arts in the valley since.

MILAN SHELDEN.....PIONEER

In September 1961 at the age of 3 began his training in American Kenpo under instructor, Tony Tolner. He received his 1st degree black belt in 1970. He subsequently obtained his eight-degree in Chito-ryu Karate, fifth-degree in Shotokan Karate, and sixth-degree in Shorinji -ryu Jujitsu under the instruction of Harley (Swiftdeer) Reagan. Mr. Shelden also holds degrees in Tae Kwon Do, Gung Fu, and Chinese Kempo Karate. He began working as an extra in movies, The Hindenburg, Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band and Buck Rogers in the 21st Century. He moved to television to work as a fight choreographer for Charlie's Angles, Starsky and Hutch and Baretta. He suffered a motorcycle accident that greatly reduced the movement of his left ankle. The doctors indicated he would not walk correctly and, never be able to perform martial arts. Mr. Shelden spent the next two years to rehabilitate himself. He examined similarities between the forms of martial arts that he had studied. And over 30 years developed Shou Yuan Chuan or Small Circling Fist. Mr. Shelden has been inducted into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame for "Legend Landmark", "Soke of the Year" and "Platinum Achievement Award". Mr. Shelden's prized awards is a FOSHAN Wing Chung tee shirt worn a pallbearers who carried IP Man and one of three books written by IP Man. In 2005, Mr. Shelden was promoted to tenth-degree black belt and Soke for his development of Shou Yuan Chuan.

CARLOS SILVAINTERNATIONAL INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Grandmaster Carlos Silva started his Martial Arts training in 1973. He has studied numerous Martial Arts including Hapkido, Karate, Ninjutsu, Jujitsu, Tae Kwon Do but is mostly known for his system of Brazilian Kickboxing. He helps to organize Martial Art events in Brazil and the United States

GURJOT SINGH.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Singh is a member of the World Martial Arts College, The US Grandmasters Association, American Tai Chi, Qigong Association, IKF, and NAGA. He holds and 8th Degree Black Belt in the Style of Internal Boxing under Dan Walth and Khadi Madama. He has been studying the Martial Art for 40 years and teaches at the YMCA.

HARRY WHEELER.....GOLDEN LIFE AWARD

Mr. Wheeler holds an 8th Dan in Kenpo Karate. He has been involved in the Martial Arts since 1964. His study began with Boxing, Wrestling, Shorei-GoJu Karate, Shotokan, Kyokushinkai, Brazilian jiu-jitsu, and Cooper Ryu Jujitsu. Mr. Wheeler has also been the Lead Instructor in Defensive Tactics and Physical Training for the Cook County Sheriff's Training Academy.

ERRON WRIGHT SR.GRANDMASTER

Mr. Wright has been in the Martial Arts for 41 years. He holds the Rank of 10th Degree Black Belt in the Art of Goju Kempo under Professor Rick Wiggington. He is a member of the Missouri martial Arts Hall of Fame and The Southwest Missouri Association Tournaments.