

OHTSUKA TADAHIKO Founder of Goju Kensha Saishin Kan Karate  
10<sup>th</sup> June 1940 – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012

It is with a very heavy heart that I announce the passing of a true great in the world of Martial Arts - Ohtsuka Tadahiko. He was a student of Goju Ryu through the Ichikawa Sosui Dojo from the age of 14. At the age of 30 he became one of youngest 6<sup>th</sup> dan Karateka in Japan to form his own organization and in 1970, under the instruction of his teacher Master Ichikawa, set up his own organization called GOJU KENSHA. Not being one to stand on ceremony, Ohtsuka Sensei, as he preferred to be called, visited Australia many times between 1975 -2001, and consequently influenced the shape of hundreds of Martial Artists in this country. As his representative for all those years I was placed in a fortuitous position to witness first hand his incredible research and training of not only Karate but several other Chinese Arts. He had the uncanny ability to draw on important principles from many systems and create a style of Karate that earned him enormous respect from the International Martial Arts Community. I recall visiting several Goju Ryu dojos in Japan recently where all the senior Masters described him the same way “as a true Karate genius”.

I have passed on heartfelt sympathy from his beloved Australia to his direct family and most senior students in Japan.

He once told me Karate was not about punching and kicking but the study of human relations. We are indeed very fortunate to have been blessed by his inspiration, vision and kindness.

He will be sadly missed.

James Sumarac 7<sup>th</sup> Dan Kyoshi Goju Ryu Karate-do Kakurin Kan International