

Tribute to a True Master In Kyokushin Karate – Hanshi Steve Arneil 10th Dan

On Friday 2nd July 2021 Hanshi Steve Arneil 87 years passed peacefully away.

Hanshi was a pioneer in many ways

- The first to accomplish the Kyokushin 100 man's kumite in 1965
- Founder of Kyokushinkai in the UK - BKK 1965
- Manager/coach of the All-Style Karate Team for England
- Winning the World Championship for Teams in LA USA 1975
- Recognised as the World's No1 Coach in Karate by the French Karate Fed.
- Invited to train the Royal Family in Jordan & accompanied by Sosai to Jordan.
- A very popular guest Sensei worldwide including Sweden (OKK)
- Started International Federation of Karate, teaching the original Kyokushin way.
- And many other milestones.

I first met **Hanshi** at the foundation of the European Kyokushinkai Organisation held in Ermelo, Holland in 1968 where I also met **Sensei Jan Kallenbach** recently returned from Japan, together with **Sensei Arthur Hisatake** who I had met earlier when I lived in Hamburg, Germany, these 3 Sensei made a memorable impression on me, and I continued the contact with these Sensei until they passed away.

Both Gerard Versteegh & Göran Friberg (OKK) received their Shodan grading from Hanshi during one of his visits to Solna in 1976

Hanshi had a very special relationship with Sosai Oyama which was not only Kohai but like a father/son bond. Hanshi told me about many experiences with Sosai, which will remain personal, Hanshi also trained specially with Soshi Sawai Kenichi before the 100 kumite matches arranged by Sosai Oyama, very few know of this.

I feel privileged and honoured to have had this long association with Hanshi not only as a Sensei but as a friend even after I left Kyokushinkai to form Taikiken/ Yoshinken in Sweden and Europe together with Kyoshi Jan Kallenbach. Steve Hanshi influenced me considerably over the many years, his IFK was big and spread out through more than 20 countries, but he was always the same person.

I feel extremely sad yet humble after losing these very special Sensei, the Budo world will never be the same.

To Hanshi Steve's wife Tsuyuko and family I send my deepest respect and condolences and to the International IFK world-wide who have lost their very special Hanshi.

OSU ! Domo arigato !



OSU !



**Hanshi Steve Arneil 10th Dan Kyokushin Karate
1934 – 2021**



Hanshi Steve visited OKK several times & graded Gerard Versteegh, Göran Friberg to Shodan 1976



I visited Hanshi Steve & his wife Tsuyuko in their home Wimbledon, December 2019