

DEAR FRIEND AND FELLOW KARATE KA,

IF I COULD MAKE IT, I WOULD BE HONORED TO BE THERE WHEN **MASTER JIMMIE JONES BECOMES A GRAND MASTER.** YOUR LETTER HIT IT RIGHT ON THE HEAD. HE IS ONE OF THE GREAT PIONEERS OF KARATE. IT WAS PEOPLE LIKE **MASTER JONES, JIM KONCEVIC, ALGENE CARAULIA AND** SOME OTHER GREAT NAMES THAT MADE THE MIDWEST WHAT IT IS TODAY.

THEY BELIVED IN TEACHING ALL THE ASPECTS OF THE ART. NOT JUST KUMITE, LIKE MOST SCHOOLS DO TODAY. JIMMIE TURNED OUT SOME GREAT STUDENT'S AND SOME GREAT TEACHERS. **I WATCHED HIM COMPETE IN KATA AND KUMITE AND I'M GLAD HE WAS WAY ABOVE ME.** WE ARE THE OFFSPRINGS OF SOME OF THE BEST TEACHERS THAT KARATE HAD. YOU HAD TO KNOW KATA, SELF-DEFENSE, TERMINOLOGY, KUMITE AND HOW TO TEACH. THEY DID NOT CARE ABOUT MONEY, JUST THE ART OF KARATE.

MY STUDENT'S ALL KNOW ABOUT JIMMIE AND HIS STUDENT'S. I HAVE ALWAYS RESPECTED HIM AND HIS STUDENT'S. EVERYBODY TELLS MY STUDENT'S HOW GOOD I USE TO BE, SOME OF THE STORIES ARE STRETCHED A LITTLE. I TELL THEM HOW HARD IT WAS JUST TO FIGHT YOU OR JOHN NORMAN. REGARDLESS WHO WON, THE OTHER PERSON KNEW HE WAS IN A TOUGH BATTLE. I'm TRYING MY RIBS STILL HURT.

TIMES WERE DIFFERENT, NOBODY CARED WHAT YOUR COLOR WAS. ALL THEY CARED ABOUT WAS IF YOU COULD FIGHT. PEOPLE WOULD GO TO A TOURNAMENT AT SOUTHTOWN Y, BEAT EACH OTHER UP THEN GO TO THAT BAR ON 63RD ST, AND HAVE A GOOD TIME. **ENEMY'S IN THE RING-FRIENDS OUT OF IT.**

OUR NAMES WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED BY THE OLD TIMERS AND THE STORIES THEY TELL. THAT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IF IT WASN'T FOR THE SENSEI'S WE HAD. NOT ONLY DOES MASTER JONES DESERVE TO BE A GRAND MASTER. HE ALSO DESERVES TO BE IN THE KARATE HALL OF FAME. WE SHOULD SHOW MORE RESPECT TO THE MASTERS WE HAVE LEFT.

IN MY DOJO, I TRY REAL HARD TO TEACH KARATE THE WAY IT WAS TAUGHT TO ME. I'M A NOBODY COMPARED TO THE MASTERS WE TRAINED UNDER. WHO AM I TO CHANGE WHAT THEY TAUGHT.

I AM SORRY IF I LEFT ANYBODYS NAME OUT. THERE WERE MANY GREAT SENSEI'S WHO TURNED OUT REALLY GOOD COMPETITORS.

THANK YOU,
SENSEI ED QUICK