

George E. Anderson --- A Great Master, a Great Sportsman, Sports Leader and a Great Friend!

I was deeply chocked and tremendously sad, when the message regarding George's death came to me during the Martial Arts Games at Bangkok. This was an event which George really should have liked to attend. For more than thirty years I have known George and attended numerous martial arts events with George and enjoyed his friendship, his esteem, his professionalism and his tremendous knowledge of sport and martial arts. Our World Martial Arts Family has certainly now lost one of the really great masters and sport leaders!

I have so many times had the enormous pleasure of being with George, both in sport and also privately and personally, in USA and in practically the whole world. First in karate, where we together in WUKO and later WKF, both had many active functions and positions. With George at your side everything was so much easier to achieve. Problems were solved, and George enthusiasm and serious leadership took us and the sport federations forward. Later I created the sport jujitsu in USA together with George and USJJF now also has lost one of its greatest supporters and senior leaders. It will take time and hard work from all others before US jujitsu will recover from this tragic loss.

I had not only official sport relations with George, he was also my great personal friend and in many situations he gave me much support and appreciated personal advice. Our time together was always a great pleasure and also extremely interesting. George covered a fantastic area of different abilities from sport to music and computer knowledge and more than everything else --- a social competence which he executed with great charisma.

I have also met George's wife and other family members many times, and now I can do nothing more than share their sorrow and extend my sincere condolences. It will not be easy to come over this loss, but life must go on for the best of everybody.

Finally I am sure that thousands and thousands of sport friends and martial arts students all over the world will join me in my wish, that George's work will be carried forward and never forgotten. Let us all hope that the knowledge and wisdom George has spread over the entire martial arts world will be to the benefit of mankind and give coming generations further visions, what sport really can bring, such as peace, happiness and decent lives!

I will always carry with me the memory of a great friend and a great man. *Farwell George and thank you for all you have given us!*

Stockholm, Sweden, 11th August 2009

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