



KENPO KARATE is a combination of two of the world's most devastating self defence forms. Actually, the two arts are very similar, differing only in detail. The word, Kenpo, describes the Chinese style of Karate, while the more modern term, Karate, best describes that system which is now practised in Okinawa. Kenpo means "law of the fist" while Karate, its related technique, means "empty hand". "Empty hand" refers to the fact that no weapons are used. Instead, the hands, elbows, fingers, feet, knees and other parts of the body are developed and used as weapons.

EDMUND KEOLOHA PARKER SR.
Founder Of Kenpo

Senior Master of the Arts Ed Parker is known world wide as the father of American Kenpo. He was the founder and president of the International Kenpo Karate Association, and Ed Parker's Karate Studios. He is the father of American Karate having originated the first American version of Karate. He opened the first professional Karate studio in the United States in Pasadena, California in 1956.

He has been featured in national and international magazines: Time, Look, Strength and Health, Show Business Illustrated, Iron Man, Action Karate, Black Belt, Karate Illustrated, Official Karate, Inside Kung-Fu, American Karate, and Karate/Kung-Fu Illustrated; in newspapers nation-wide; articles in the World Encyclopaedia and many others.

He has appeared in dozens of movies and television shows, including Revenge Of The Pink Panther and The Curse Of The Pink Panther. In addition, he has taught karate to nearly every big name actor and actress in Hollywood since the late 1950's. He has also been a technical advisor for motion pictures and TV.

Throughout the years, Mr. Parker has authored many books: Basic Karate, Kenpo Karate, The Woman's Guide to Self-Defence, Secrets of Chinese Karate, A Guide to Law Enforcement, Guide to the Nunchaku, Infinite Insights into Kenpo (volumes 1-5), The Zen of Kenpo, Inside Elvis, and much more.

He was a graduate of Kamehameha High School in (1949), Honolulu, Hawaii where he was born and raised. Mr. Parker received a B.S. Degree from Brigham Young University in 1956, with a Major in Sociology and Psychology, and a Minor in Political Science.

Mr. Parker produced the largest annual martial arts tournament, the International Karate Championships in Long Beach, California.

Mr. Parker's uniqueness rested in his continuous efforts to combat traditional restrictions binding progressive thinking. He was truly a creative genius because of his incredible ability to discover problems within the martial arts. His contributions and innovations are endless, encompassing logic and reasoning not yet employed by others. His nearly four decades of experience, contributions, and endeavours establish his as the Master and Founder of our system, and the author of our training material.

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