



## Luther Jacob Duffy Jr.

August 15, 1946 - May 19, 2023

Luther Duffy left this world on May 19, 2023. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, having served from 1964 to 1969 and during the Viet-Nam war served as a Radio Intercept Analysis Specialist in Japan. He was a patriot and he loved America.

The true love of his life was teaching karate. He taught at Baylor University for many years and then moved to Colorado Springs and taught at the Air Force Academy. He was also a tremendous competitor in tournament competition, having won hundreds of trophies in sparring and “kata” (forms). He was at one time, rated as one of the top black-belt fighters in the state tournament circuit. He has many former students from Baylor and his private “dojo” (studio). He had a very positive impact on a whole lot of people, and he will be greatly missed!

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ Luther & I were good friends at the Russian Language Institute in Monterey, California. We spent a bunch of time together and were on the same Baseball team. He was a solid friend and a great teammate. That was 60 years ago but I never forgot his great smile. Rest in peace, friend. (Rich Stettenbenz).



Richard Stettenbenz - May 26, 2025 at 02:26 PM

GB

“ I first met Luther when stationed on "The Hill" at Misawa, Japan '68-'69.. He was a kind person that seemed to get along with everyone. My fondest memory was when I would see him in his Karate Gi wearing cowboy boots. RIP, Luther.

Gary Burrmann - June 02, 2024 at 04:31 AM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:17 AM

ME

“ I've posted some old photos of Duffy. I never met him, though he seemed dedicated to his martial arts for sure!

M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:17 AM

SA

*Thanks for posting the photos. I'm glad someone finally did! I'm wondering, if you never met him, where and how did you come across the pics? These are good pics of him.*

Samuel - November 12, 2024 at 06:52 PM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:13 AM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:12 AM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:12 AM

SA

*He was my instructor of Shotokan, in Waco at his dojo on Bosque Blvd, in front of the bowling alley.*

Samuel - November 12, 2024 at 06:54 PM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:11 AM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:09 AM

ME

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



M Elliott - January 25, 2024 at 11:08 AM



“ *Luther Jacob Duffy Jr.*

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *Luther Jacob Duffy Jr.*

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *Luther Jacob Duffy Jr.*

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *I never knew his middle name. And I seldom heard anyone refer to him by his first name. It was always Duffy. He was my first karate instructor. I trained with him at Baylor as well as at his dojo for six years. I am extremely grateful for everything that he taught me. As I recall, he was introduced to Shotokan when he was in the Air Force serving in Japan. It was at a time when westerners were only just being allowed to train in their dojos. The stories he told me of the training remain with me to this day. They were grueling and designed to develop true warriors. The fact that he earned his black belt there is a testament to his commitment and dedication to the art. He carried that with him when he returned to Waco and it was always evident in his classes. I recently thought of him and was surprised and saddened to read that he had passed. I don't recall ever speaking to him about religion, but I hope at some point he came to know Christ as his Lord and Savior.*

**Steven** - September 19, 2023 at 07:22 PM



*When did you learn under him? I too took his classes in the early 80's.*

**Gary Combs** - August 01, 2024 at 10:43 AM



*Steve, Im fairly certain you and I trained together, at the dojo on Bosque. Do you remember Gerald Stump?*

**Samuel** - November 12, 2024 at 06:55 PM



*“ Duffy was my first karate instructor. I trained with him at Baylor as well as at his private dojo for six years. I am grateful for everything he taught me.*

*As I recall, he was introduced to Shotokan while serving in the Air Force in Japan. It was at time when westerners were just being allowed to train in their dojos. The stories he told me of the training remain with me to this day. They were grueling and designed to create nothing short of a warrior. The fact that he earned his black belt while there is a testament to his commitment and dedication to the art. He carried that with him when he returned to Waco. I lost touch with him after I left Waco. However, I recently thought of him and was surprised and saddened to read of his death. I don't recall ever speaking with him about religion, but I can only hope that he came to know Christ at some point.*

**Steven Napier** - September 16, 2023 at 04:58 PM



*I think you and I trained together at the dojo on Bosque. 1980 and 81.*

**Samuel** - November 12, 2024 at 06:56 PM

RM

“ Luther Duffy was a one of a kind special person. I knew him from before I made Black Belt, which was in 1974. We shared a lot of good times in Texas Karate, tournaments & teaching at his Waco School. Then also I just happened to be around Colorado when he made his move to the Air Force Academy. Great guy, I miss him been looking & wondering what happened to him. Much Love & Respect Sir. Thanks for the friendship & Brotherhood.

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**Raymond McCallum** - June 21, 2023 at 08:07 AM

AB

“ I met Luther over 10 years ago at the VA while working as a pharmacist. Throughout the years we developed a friendship. He was kind, funny and witty. Not everyone had the pleasure to know this side of him but I was lucky enough to have earned his trust. I was grateful to be able to spend time with him these last few months and tell him how much he meant to me. He was a dear friend whom I will never forget. Rest in peace!

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**Angela Bassek** - May 25, 2023 at 01:55 PM