

December 10, 2009

Rest in Peace...

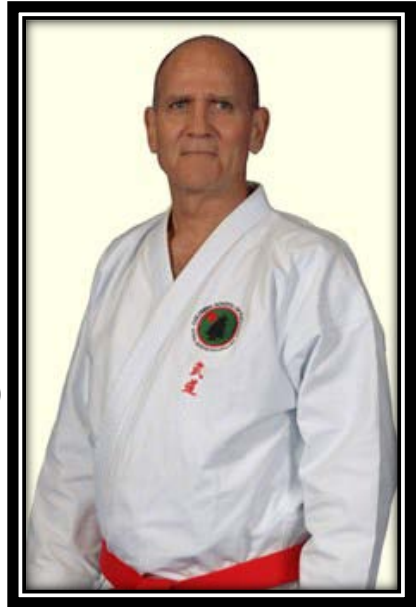
Hanshi Ridgely Abele

Pioneer & Legend Martial Artist

GREAT Human Being

1950 - 2009

Long before I even dreamed about opening my Dojo in West Columbia, SC Ridgely Abele OWNED this city. Mr. Abele started training Karate in 1964 (before many of you were born) and has owned and operated the Columbia School of Karate-Do on Meeting Street since the early 1980's.



I have never once considered his school "competition." In fact I often go over there during the day to sit and listen to him tell me stories and inspire me with his own wisdom. He truly is "The Man"!! He has always been so humble to talk to me and help me.

I was HONORED to have him attend the Carolina Martial Arts Open in May of 2009!

You will not find a person in the martial arts world that has a single negative thing to say about Mr. Abele. He TRULY is a man of honor and integrity in martial arts! His students are of the highest caliber and are extremely loyal to him. I have had the pleasure to meet many of his Black belts over the years.

I have known him and of him for almost 20 years and have an INCREDIBLE amount of respect for him. Please keep him, his family and his students in your thoughts and prayers...

Humble and Respectful,

Sensei Brian Pena