

go along with his systemised requirements. The colours of each belt level signifying proficiency, achievement and authority. He created many innovative and new answers by comparing Kenpo to other fields and exposed and revealed many breakthroughs in body motion and its' application to fighting, self-defence and the Martial Arts. Key ideas such as the 'three points of views' and 'tailoring the art to the individual and not the individual to the art', 'opposite and reverse motion', 'black dot focus', 'economy of motion' and many others enabled him to employ logic and practicality to his art. His formal education and training enabled him to extract principles from physics, geometry, mathematics and alpha and numeric systems and compare them to life experiences that caused a new Kenpo discipline to emerge.

He spoke and lectured on American Kenpo Karate all over the world. He was a highly sought after speaker and his demonstrations were highly prized by those who secured them for their events. He had many different government officials from many different countries as his students.

His use of analogies, stories and sayings to illustrate the points he was trying to put across are legend.

"To hear is to doubt, to see is to be deceived, but to feel is to believe".

"For every move, concept, principle, theory or definition, there is an opposite and a reverse".

Many of these stories and analogies are well documented in his many writings. His unique ability to communicate Kenpo and other Martial Arts information to his students remains unparalleled and his art, American Kenpo was as effective yesterday as it is today and will continue to be effective in the future. His uniqueness was highlighted by the fact that he continuously combated traditional restrictions by building progressive thinking. His four decades of experience, contributions and endeavours establish him as the **ONLY SENIOR GRANDMASTER** of the system.

"Kenpo is the system I teach, if however, we were to examine my methods carefully, the system could very easily bear my name since it contains concepts, theories and principles that are not found in any other Martial Arts systems".

Ed Parker wanted his art to be called American Kenpo and not Parker Kenpo and stated this many times. He was a great believer in humility and self-restraint. *"An individual becomes humble when the realisation that the sum total of what one knows is actually very little".*

"Egotism is the anaesthetic that deadens the pain of stupidity".

He wanted his students to be 'thinkers',

to get answers for themselves, to become self-correcting in their analysis of their own motion. He wanted his black belts to be leaders and to set a good example in their community. The benefits of Kenpo were to him very important:

"One day I had a father knock on the door at my office in Pasadena. He came in and shut the door, and started crying. He said, 'No, these are tears of joy, my wife and I are divorced 14 years ago and my son has been relayed between my wife and I all this time and he became introvert as a result. So much so, that when I talked to him, he'll never face me face-to-face. Yesterday, because of the confidence he built up from training, not only did he talk to me face-to-face for the first time in 14 years, but he challenged my authority. He

told me all the training he'd had was worth it'. This is the kind of thing I like.

I've found that a lot of kids who don't get any recognition in their home, get it by belonging to the tough group on the street corner. But once you give a kid confidence they become independent. They become capable of doing their own thing without the need to congregate with bad elements. These are the kind of stories that are more meaningful to me than some guy who went down to the local bar and cleaned up ten guys".

"As I have said many times before, a lot of instructors out there are not qualified. When a person who isn't qualified opens a school, the instruction gets watered down and bad attitudes are the result. A true leader can be judged by his students

Gary Ellis AKKS director Great Britain and Ed Dowley AKKS director Europe

