

a Kenpo concept or principal and they were always delivered in his own very special inspirational style. I remember one instance where he asked a student if the lights had come on and if he understood what Mr. Parker was teaching. The student responded that the lights had not only come on, but they were floodlights.

Another memory was when I visited his home and we discussed knife techniques, he realised I was interested and left the room for a moment to return with a large carpet-bag containing a variety of knives. We then had a detailed conversation on the use and application of knife cutting techniques and defences against a knife. I will never forget Ed Parker and will continue to promote his teaching and art for the rest of my life".

Ron Chaprel;

"Let me relate something to you about Ed Parker that's unique to my own experience. I'll never forget, I was a young 17 year old black belt when we met. I was in a crowd of people and quite insignificant at a prestigious Martial Arts event. There were people vying for his attention, instead he came right at me and said 'Hi, I'm Ed Parker'. Once I had regained the ability to speak our friendship began. He was so humble and unassuming, by the end of our conversation he spoke to me as if he had known me all of my life.

Ed Parker was many things to me. A best friend, a big brother, a father and even a Kenpo Teacher. He wore many hats with me and he always seemed to know which one to put on at any given time. Of all the things he was, a Kenpo Teacher was probably the least significant.

He taught me a tremendous amount of Kenpo. He taught me a hundred times more about life. He was the most significant male figure in my life. He was tremendously proud of his son and we often talked about him being a 'man' and what it meant. Having grown up without a father I asked him how he would teach his son to be a man. He said 'The best way to teach someone to be a man is not to'. I didn't understand but he continued, 'Just be one, and let them watch you'. To no surprise I have never been able to replace this man in my life - I miss you my friend".

Skip Hancock;

"Mr. Parker was a 'revolutionary'; he turned the world of the Martial Arts upside down. He had the desire and ability to make everyone feel special and he did. Mr. Parker

never called himself 'Master' Parker. Like anyone who truly masters an art form he realised that was exactly what he had done. It does not mean that he had mastered all other art forms let alone mastered life itself. He never considered himself above or below anyone or anything, he was simply more knowledgeable and skilled in a particular art. Like Mr. Parker with effort we can transfer the wisdom gained from the process of mastering Kenpo to parts or all aspects of our life. God is our only Master".

Jeff Speakman;

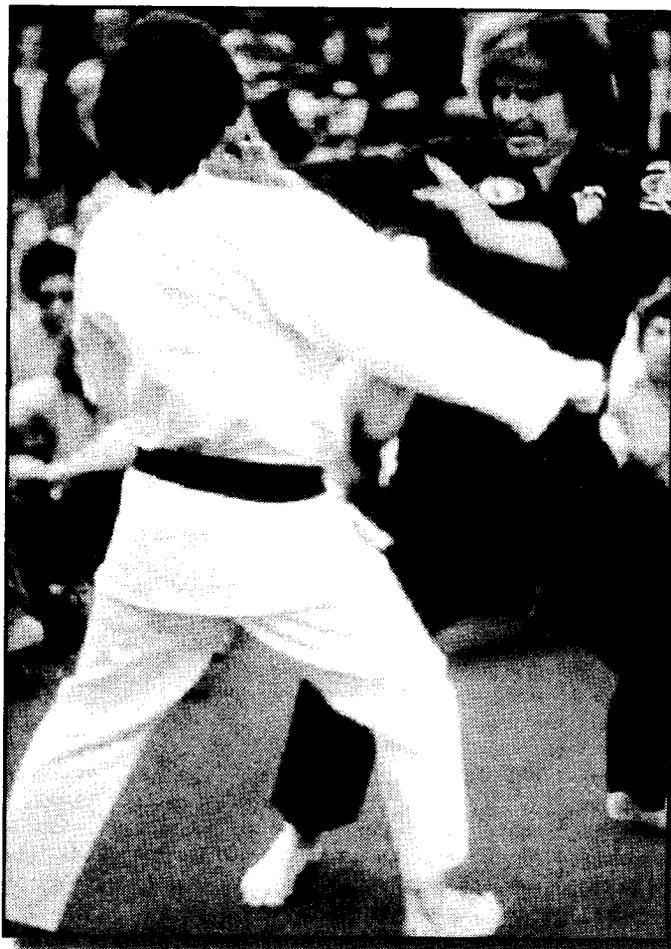
"I was very privileged to have a unique and special relationship with Mr. Parker in

read the Black Belt magazine article he wrote about me. In it he said 'I never gave Jeff the complete answers, I always gave him half answers and made him discover the rest himself'. As I look back on all those lessons we had at his house in Pasadena I can now see the truth of that statement and the wisdom of that approach. That is why the message from me to all students and practitioners is that of inclusion not exclusion. We need to find a way to be together, because life is not only precious but also short.

Tommy Chavies;

"Mr. Parker was a man noble of principle and integrity, a man of honour. He was a genius.....he was one in ten million. He conceptualised the Martial Arts and influenced the world. It's been nine years since his death in December of 1990 and his contributions are still felt today. Through his efforts many of the different systems of Martial Arts are now household words. If it were not for him the Martial Arts might have kept its veil of secrecy and remained obscure to the world outside of Asia. He has touched the lives of millions, even billions through his endeavour to share his passion for the Martial Arts. I feel his contribution was tremendous, Mr. Parker was a man promoting the Art and not himself and that's what made him great. He was the maker of legends and the protector of the high profile individuals. He accomplished more in his lifetime than 100 men but still had dreams unfulfilled.

You find out what something is worth when you pay for it and you only find out its' value when you lose it, when you are forced to live without it. Mr. Parker's life was priceless, his value is irreplaceable. Look around you and you'll see what one man's



the sense that my interaction with him encompassed not only the art of Kenpo Karate but the arena of personal hopes and dreams. Although my years were relatively short with him, the actual time spent with him was enormous. As I reflect back on those times many things come to mind related more to the content of the man and his view of the future than the physical pros of the art. In retrospect I would have to say that the most important thing to Mr. Parker was to entice people to think. Because in doing so you are giving the skills necessary to problem solve, and therefore producing generations of solutions. This became abundantly clear after his death when I

contribution has done through the lives of those he touched; Elvis Presley, Bruce Lee, Dan Inosanto, Steve Sanders, Tak Kubota, Chuck Norris, Joe Lewis, Fumio Demura (stunt double for Mr. Miyagi in 'A Karate Kid'), Jhoon Rhee, Joe Hyams, MacDonald Carey, Jeff Speakman, Dick Dale, Nick Adams, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jnr., Joey Bishop, Tom Jones, David Lee Roth, Robert Wagner, Larry King, Warren Beatty, Steve McQueen, Ricardo Montalban, Lucille Ball, Natalie Wood, Elke Sommers, Ursula Andrews, Audie Murphy, Gary Cooper, Blake Edwards, Peter Sellars, Jose Ferrer, Robert Conrad, Bill Bixby, Sidney Poitier, Sheldon Leonard, Robert Culp, Bill Cosby,