

## BIO of HANSHI RICHARD M. KAHN - UPDATED



2021 Richard with Sifu Jack and with fellow black belt students

Richard Kahn is an 8<sup>th</sup> Dan Hachidan Hanshi Black Belt, with 4 decades of martial arts training and experience, 38 of which include in Kenpo. Richard was awarded Hanshi rank in 2021 by his instructor, Sifu Jack F.C. Shamburger, who was awarded 10<sup>th</sup> Dan Grand Master (“GM”) by GGM Al Tracy in 2015. Richard’s Hachidan diploma includes a marque of photos and names reflecting iconic lineage in the Tracy’s system.



Lineage is the defining pedigree of recognized martial arts and Richard’s lineage above his entry in the Tracy Kenpo Tree of black belts is ancient and impeccable. It dates back to AD 1235 with Zenko Yoshida the 10<sup>th</sup> GM Kenpo, followed by Jiroku Yoshida (1818 – 1890) the 19<sup>th</sup> GM, Sukuhei Yosida (1890 – 1943) the 20<sup>th</sup> GM, James Mitosi (1916-1981) 21<sup>st</sup> GM, William Chow (1914 – 1982) Founder of Kenpo Karate, Ed Parker (1931 – 1990) Founder of American Kenpo Karate, and finally GM Al Tracy, Founder of Tracy’s Kenpo Karate

Great Grand Master Al Tracy trained and promoted some 113 first generation black belts, including those directly identified on Kahn’s Hanshi diploma lineage: Grand Master J.T. Will, Grand Master Dick Willet and Grand Master Orned “Chicken” Gabriel. Richard Kahn has been etched into the Tracy Family Tree of Kenpo Black Belts in this line. GM “Sifu Jack” Shamburger is second generation and Hanshi Richard

Kahn is 3<sup>rd</sup> generation GGM Al Tracy Black Belts.

Richard was introduced by GM Sifu Jack initially to GGM Al Tracy in the late 1980’s. GM Sifu Jack was awarded his own system of Kenpo by the Tracy organization in 1990, called Shamburger’s Chinese Hawaiian Kenpo. Richard started long distance training with GGM Al Tracy in 1994. Richard also trained for some years with GM Bart Vale back in the 1990s. GM “Sifu Bart” is second generation under GM Tom Dunne. Richard and GM Sifu Bart have remained in contact across the decades. GM Bart Vale is the Founder of Shootfighting and one of the early fighters leading up to the popular MMA and combo standup and grappling sports.



Richard began studying Kenpo Karate with GM Jack Shamburger in the mid 1980s. Prior to this, Richard was training and competing in full contact kick boxing for 2 years, veteran of more than a few dozen full contact fights in that time. World Champion Soke GM Steve “Nasty” Anderson, promoted to 9<sup>th</sup> Dan Kudan Hanshi by GM Sifu Jack Shamburger gave excellent instruction in Sport Karate. This augmented GM Sifu Jack’s US Marine Corps competitive experience in fighting and forms during the 1970s that he taught his students.

Richard Kahn fought competitively for 7 years. 2 years full contact and 5 years sport karate. He had over 220 amateur judged fight rounds on the official records, competing regionally in the Northeast, Nationally and Internationally and enjoyed top regional, national and international ranking. Richard's won over 70 trophies, awards, plaques and medals

Photo at left if of Richard receiving his black belt certificate # 6 from GM Sifu Jack in 1997.

Due to the times and things he was into, Richard developed a reputation of putting his Kenpo training to good use outside the judged arena on many occasions. Delivery from which he remains grateful and carries many memories and reminders.

In August 2024 Richard is nominated for induction into the world renowned, super prestigious Kenpo Hall of Fame Masters Division. Honored and humbled to be in the company of an exclusive membership that numbers just over 100.



In August 2024 Richard was nominated for inclusion in the 2024 AMAA Legacy Book 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Biography Edition and recipient of the AMAA Who’s Who Legacy Award. An event recognizing such legends as Chuck Norris, Joe Corley, Jhoon Ree, Bill “Superfoot” Wallace and Cynthia Rothrock.

In 2020 Richard was honored by inclusion into the Martial Arts History book. In 2019 Richard was honored with a photo layout inclusion as one of the Worlds Greatest Martial Artists, Vol. 12. In 2017 Richard was recognized by the Gathering of Eagles Kenpo Yudanshakai for his contribution to the Martial Arts in Dallas TX. Richard had the honor of escorting Steve “Nasty” Anderson at the prestigious Banquet. In 2015 Richard was honored with inclusion on the Tracy’s Kenpo Family Tree of Black Belts at Gathering of Eagles, Chicago. In 2013 Richard was inducted into the Action Martial Arts Magazine Hall of Honors.