

In memory of Sensei Jim Burgess

It was in his early years, prior to WWII, that Sensei Jim Burgess took to the martial arts. While stationed in Puerto Rico, he taught escape and evasion tactics as time permitted.

From Puerto Rico, Sensei Jim Burgess was assigned to a bomber squadron in Guam where he was sent on a number of bombing missions. In 1945, he made a move to Okinawa, where he took advantage of an opportunity to train with some of the local black belts.

In 1946 he was discharged from the service, returning to civilian life with his wife and daughters.

In 1950 the family moved to Portland, OR, where Sensei Jim Burgess met up with Robert Dewar, who taught Sosuishitsu Ryu Jujitsu, Karate, and Judo. In 1982 he was appointed the Commissioner of all the SJK dojos of the western US.

Sensei Jim Burgess was promoted to Yo Mokuroku in the early 1980s and received his Yodan from Jujitsu America in 1986. He was presented with Jujitsu America's Instructor of the Year Award in 1988.

Sensei Jim Burgess closed his school in the mid 1990s and retired to King City. He still participated in many martial arts activities.