



Dae Sup An

January 9, 2024

Dae Sup An, 86, of McAllen, Texas passed away on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

Dae Sup An was born August 20, 1937, in Namwon, South Korea and graduated from Dongguk University, Seoul, South Korea with a Bachelor of Arts in Korean Literature in 1961. He married Jung Ok Kim on December 9, 1972, in Quito, Ecuador. He was known to most as “Grand Master An” to all his students across the world, “Appa” to his family and children, and “Hapi” to his granddaughter.

Grand Master An was a 9th Dan Black Belt issued by the Kukkiwon (World Tae Kwon Do Federation) and he always had a great love and passion for Tae Kwon Do. He came to the United States in 1973 to establish An’s Tae Kwon Do Academy in Chicago, Illinois and moved to McAllen, Texas in 1982 to promote Korean Tae Kwon Do in Mexico and the Rio Grande Valley. He retired in 2021.

Grand Master An was a four-time Korean National Champion, earning him Korea’s Excellent Player and Champion of Champions from 1963 to 1966. From 1963-1972, he served as Chief Bodyguard for the Korean Police Chief and was Chief Instructor for Korean National Police. In 1972, he was invited to coach the President’s guards and Military Academy in Ecuador, South

America, and pioneered the spread of Tae Kwon Do in Ecuador, South America. Grand Master An has been honored in both the Korean and World Tae Kwon Do Hall of Fame, including being the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008. He was featured on the cover of Tae Kwon Do Times and in Black Belt Magazine.

Grand Master An's other love was his family. He was preceded in death by his parents, three older sisters, and one older brother. Grand Master An leaves behind his loving wife of 51 years, Jung Ok An; daughter, Marcia An; son, Danny An, and wife Kelly; granddaughter, Kennedy; and many other friends, colleagues, and students. He loved spending time with family, and Kennedy, his only grandchild; could always brighten up his day with many laughs and the biggest smile.

Grand Master An was a kind and caring husband, father, grandfather, friend, and mentor and he will be immensely missed by all who knew him. He promoted Tae Kwon Do in the United States and was a pioneer in the globalization of Korean Tae Kwon Do.

To honor and celebrate Grand Master An's life, a memorial service will be held Saturday, January 20, 2024, at 4:00 pm, with visitation hours from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, at Kreidler Funeral Home. 314 N. 10th Street, McAllen, Texas, 78501.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 20. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.
314 N 10th St.
McAllen, TX 78501
(956) 686-0234
kreidler@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

Memorial Service

JAN 20. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.
314 N 10th St.
McAllen, TX 78501
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kreidler@sbcglobal.net
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Tribute Wall

JG

“ Master An was a very important person in my life as a youngster. I attended his first academy in Chicago,IL. An's Academy in South Chicago 87th Commercial. He was a man of Great Integrity and it was honor to have been trained by him during my youth. Through his teachings I was able to achieve the highest achievement award within the Academy and I also won many tournaments. He was a genuine man, well respected. He pushed to stay humble,focused,disciplined and to respect the craft and your opponent. Never to be a bully!! Keep your mind strong and you can achieve what you want. He made it a point to visit his students and I visited him in McAllen several times with my family. It was honor to train with him and an honor to have been able to visit him. I am grateful for his teachings as they have followed me through my life. To be able to have sparred with him, preparing for tournament will be experiences I will never forget as he showed me what sparring was really all about! One last thing..to run through the snow BAREFOOT through the blocks of South Chicago was an example of perseverance. I made it because he trained us to be the best. I'm saddened to have missed his services...As his student and for others I know his spirit will always be with us...To his family...It was Honor...Joe R. Gonzalez 2nd Dan of South Chicago

Joe R. Gonzalez - February 19, 2024 at 10:04 PM

KP

“ *Master An , thank you for teaching me how to defend myself. Training at your Academy taught me self respect ,self confidence , but most of all discipline. I could not wait to go the training sessions or the tournament you took us too. You always made me feel like I matter and that I could accomplish anything If I set my mind to. Thank you Master An . I will miss you Rest in Peace.*



Karina Michelle Presas - January 21, 2024 at 10:28 PM

FM

“ *Thank you Master An for being such a wonderful teacher and mentor. I'm not sure I have the best words to rightfully convey how grateful I am for having the opportunity to study under you and for your enlightening conversations with me but thank you so much for everything. You and your family are in my prayers.*

Fidel Monreal

Fidel Monreal - January 20, 2024 at 10:15 PM

EC

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



eric castillo - January 20, 2024 at 06:27 PM



“ We will miss you Master An 🙏



Vanessa Barrera Salinas - January 20, 2024 at 01:25 PM



“ *Master An , with tears in my eyes and sadness in my heart I say farewell to you .. Thank you so much for being there as a second father, mentor and dear friend for me and my daughter Karina. I would like express my sincere condolences to Grand Master An's family, friends and fellow taekwondo Masters that trained under him and assisted them during sponsorship of Tournament events. REST IN PEACE MASTER DAE SUP AN. You shall be missed*
With love Maria Teresa Presas

Maria Teresa Presas - January 14, 2024 at 10:10 PM



“ *Master A was a great mentor who taught me discipline and courage. He was a great person who truly cared about his students. I am very grateful to have learned from him as he changed my life and taught me values I would use through my entire life. As I give you my final bow, I want to thank you for being a positive influence in my life.*

Darrin C - January 13, 2024 at 09:51 PM

EG

“ Grand Master An, I thank you for being part of my life, and TWD training and guidance. I will always have your family in my thoughts and prayers. May you rest in peace.

Eric Christopher Gonzales

Eric Gonzales - January 11, 2024 at 04:47 PM

RS

“ Rest in peace Grandmaster An. Condolences to your family. A very nice gentleman and very well respected in the TKD community. He use to come to all the tournaments in Dallas. He was always very gracious to me. I will always remember his smile! You will be missed.



Richard Sacks - January 11, 2024 at 03:06 PM

RS

“ Richard Sacks lit a candle in memory of Dae An



Richard Sacks - January 11, 2024 at 02:40 PM

LS

“ God rest you Grand Master An. Thank you for the many hours you spent over 33 years teaching me and the rest of the Sewell family Tae Kwon Do. May peace and happiness be with your family in knowing what a gracious person he was. The Sewell Family Lee Jay , Rosie, Lee Jay II, Jacob and Leah.

Lee Jay Sewell - January 10, 2024 at 10:09 PM

AC

“ Thank You Grandmaster An, for being a wonderful mentor, teacher and letting Christopher and I be a part of a wonderful Taekwondo family. You were always the first to say hello when we came for practice and the first to call or come by to see if we were okay. We will never forget that. As a little girl I remember going with my father to Pronto gas station and he always speaking to my father by the car “Henry come to my class, I will teach you Taekwondo, my father hesitant and Master An telling my father ‘no more smoking, it’s bad for you’. Always looking out for everyone. There’s so much to say that the heart can only express. To Mrs An, Marcia and Danny. I’m terribly sorry for your loss, he was and is a great man and you are in our thoughts and prayers. We love you all.



Anna and Christopher - January 10, 2024 at 05:29 PM

RR

“ rich robinson lit a candle in memory of Dae An



rich robinson - January 10, 2024 at 04:31 PM

RR

“ rich robinson sent a virtual gift in memory of Dae An



rich robinson - January 10, 2024 at 04:30 PM

RR

“ I will miss Master An. I'm 68 years old and started training with Master An when i was 22 years old. I loved his school and took extreme pride when he promoted me to 5th Dan Black Belt. I truly enjoyed being one of his Instructors. I loved how he would tell people in spanish.. "Tu muy gordo" "You need Tae Kwon Do!". Master An it is now time for you to teach the Angels how to perform a spinning back kick. I will never forget you, Sir. Till we meet again in that Big Dojo in the sky. RIP, I LOVE YOU SIR.....

RESPECTFULLY,
RICH ROBINSON

rich robinson - January 10, 2024 at 04:10 PM

CC

Great human being and fantastic mentor and teacher. He will always be in our memories. With my deep respects to his beautiful spouse and children. May God bless you always. Carlos Cruz

carlos cruz - January 10, 2024 at 06:16 PM

CG

Thank You Master Ann!!!! I studied with you for 12 years starting when I was 6yrs old and my son started training with you at the age of 5. We both hold the utmost respect for you. You were one of the best teachers and mentors. We Love you and will miss you very much. RIP

Respectfully,
Carlos (kaleulloseu) and Justin (jeoseutin) Garcia

Carlos Garcia - January 11, 2024 at 11:25 AM