



Goju Hall #804 of New Rochelle, N.Y.  
Founder: Raymond A. Fitzpatrick

## Thomas Leo Jackson

**1953-2002**

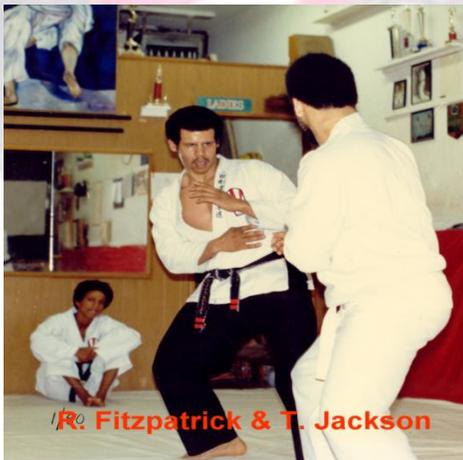
Shodan, Nisei Goju-Ryu  
Knight of 582 North Ave.

Friend, Brother and Student



In the early evening of Saturday, August 10, 2002, Thomas departed this life. While riding a motorcycle on a lonely country road, he was hit by an automobile and left to die on the side of the road.

My friend and student, Thomas was born in Keysville, Virginia to Lloyd and Helen Neal Jackson on March 2, 1953. He received his formal education in the Public Schools of Lunenburg County.



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# Nisei Goju-Jitsu

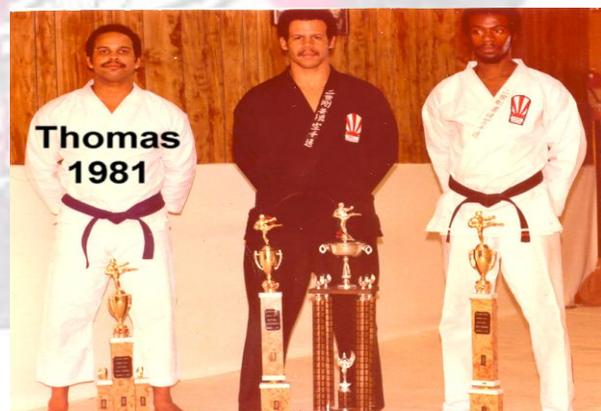
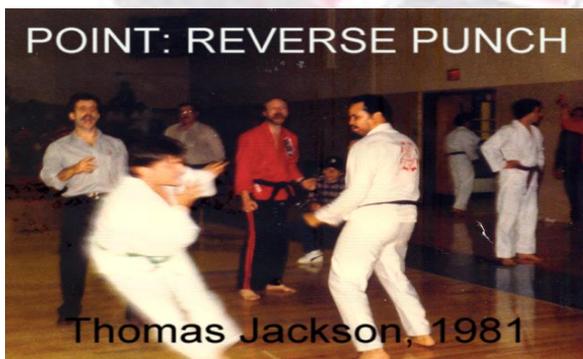
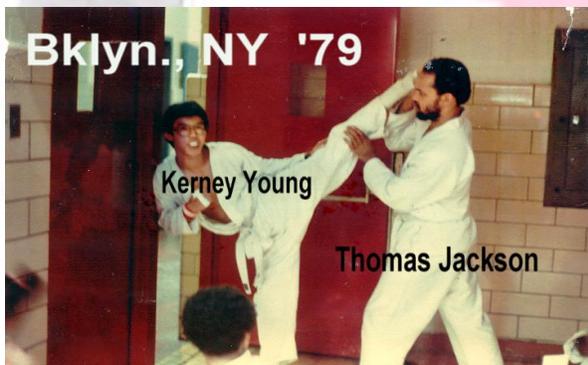
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Recruited by his friend, Warren Young, Thomas began training in Nisei Goju-Ryu in June 1979 with Mitsuru and Toru Ishikawa, Kerney Young, Portia Young and Michael Mills. Due to his excellent hands– eye coordination and timing, he eventually achieved brown belt in 1982 before moving to Massachusetts in 1983. *As one of my original students, Thomas had the privilege of training with Grandmasters, Frank Ruiz (deceased) and Earl Monroe.*

Thomas always played the role of advisor and confidant (sempai) with the newer students (kohai). Many a time he would take a student aside while placing his arm over the student’s shoulder and say in his easy manner, “Boy, if you ever do that again, Sensei is going to kill you.”

Thomas also assisted me in teaching at Concordia College, Bronxville, NY with Warren Young and John Coschigano in 1982.

*Thomas was also a “Class A Heavyweight” always finishing in close quarters with the punch. When students were experiencing an abundance of “GO Feelings”, he was quick to deliver his decisive reverse punch to the chest. He and Sharrieff Rashed (deceased) had memorable encounters. Sharrieff would say, “Saansei, he hits to hard.” He had a wicked reverse punch.*



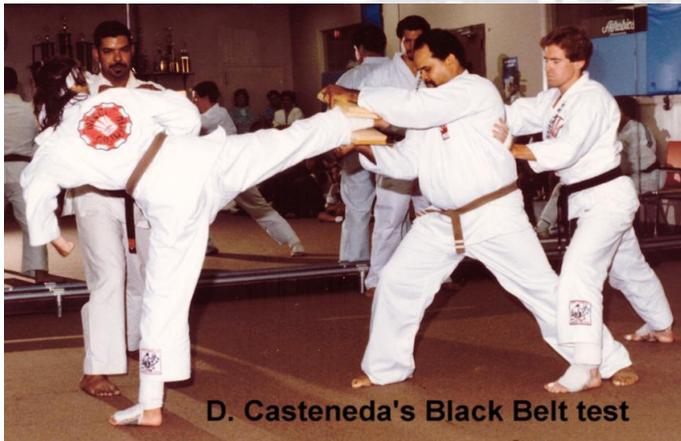
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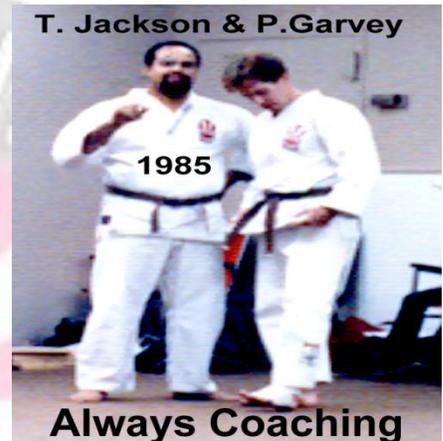
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His love for Goju-Ryu and his associates would bring him back to the dojo for several special occasions and we all relished those times. **With just a glance and a nod, he would inspire confidence in a karateka during a critical moment.** Kyus and Dans alike would often heed his advice knowing he was “old school.”



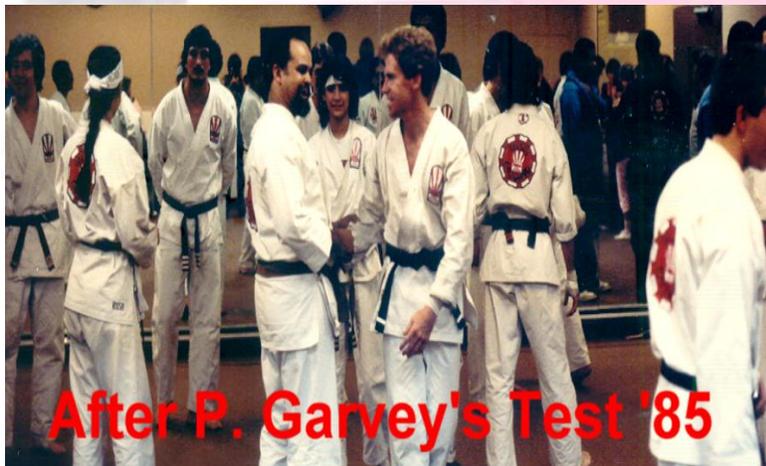
D. Casteneda's Black Belt test



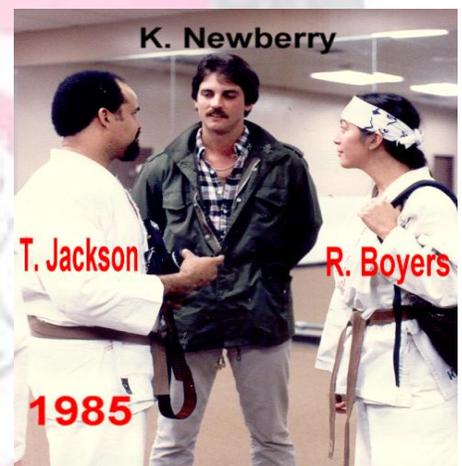
T. Jackson & P. Garvey

1985

Always Coaching



After P. Garvey's Test '85



K. Newberry

T. Jackson

R. Boyers

1985

Because of the above, it was my honor to welcome Mr. Jackson into the fraternity of Nisei Goju-Ryu black belts in July 2001 with a special diploma signed by Grandmasters Frank Ruiz (deceased) and Earl Monroe (deceased).

**THIS HONOR WAS VERY LONG OVERDUE.** He was my 24<sup>th</sup> black belt student.

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During the course of a twenty-eight year business career, Thomas worked for the General Motors Corporation in Tarrytown, N.Y, Framingham, Mass. and Baltimore, Md. He was employed with the Saturn Corporation (GM) in Springhill, TN. from 1995 until his death. Thomas is survived by his **wife**, Annie Kelson Jackson; **son**, Marcus Jackson; **daughter**, Patrice Jackson; his **mother**, Mrs. Helen Jackson; **six brothers**, Kenneth, Marvin, Cecil, Darryl, Malcolm and David; **five sisters**, Janice Colbert, Nadine Bragg, Caroline Williams, Evelyn Reid and Elma Jackson; several brothers and sisters-in- law; four step children; five step-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, other family members, dojo brothers and sisters, Sensei and friends.

Frater Infinitas (Brothers Forever),

Raymond A. Fitzpatrick, M.C.S.  
Iemoto, Nisei Goju-Jitsu



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