

NEWS & EVENTS

Karate loses Okinawan legend

Okinawa lost another of its renowned karate masters with the death of Takayoshi Nagamine Soke, 10th Dan, on 27 April.

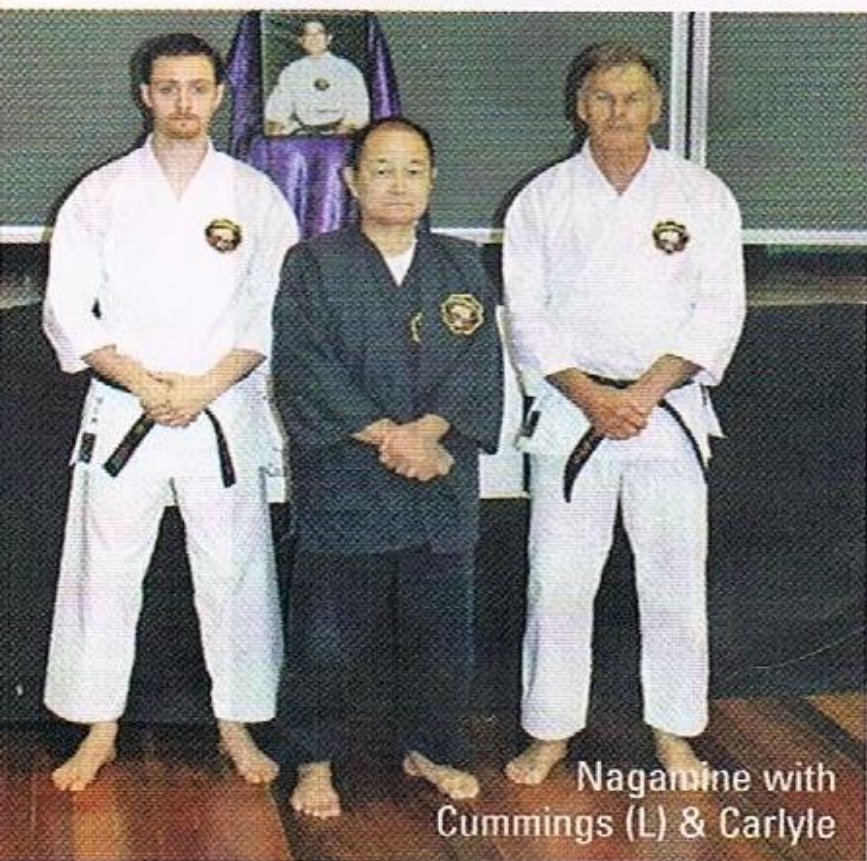
The 66-year-old sensei had 60 years' experience in martial arts and was the second-generation headmaster and successor to the Matsubayashi-ryu karate-do system founded by his father, Shoshin Nagamine O'sensei.

Having started karate at age six, Nagamine Soke lived in the United States for over 10 years to develop the World Matsubayashi-ryu Karate-do Association.

Nagamine was represented Down Under by John Carlyle Sensei, 5th Dan, chief instructor of the Matsubayashi-ryu Karate Association of Australia, and Reece Cummings Sensei, 3rd Dan, head instructor of Canberra's Kodokan Matsubayashi-ryu Karate Dojo. Both regularly trained with their master in Okinawa and brought him out to Australia for seminars and gradings.

"I will miss him greatly," said Carlyle Sensei, who hosted Nagamine at his home during his visits. "His skill, knowledge and depth of understanding will be missed by the karate world. We have lost another direct link to the old karate masters, to which he could be directly traced back."

"A unique bond is shared between a sensei and student in the Okinawan martial arts — one that is often very hard to understand," said Cummings Sensei. "Soke's passing has created deep sadness and a great void. He was such a special person and instructor, who had so much knowledge and skill, and a willingness to help anyone who showed dedication to their karate journey."



Nagamine with Cummings (L) & Carlyle