

**In Memoriam:
Jack A. Williams Jr.**

Saya Jack Allen Williams JR., was a founding member and instructor of The Columbus Bando group, led by Panther Grand Master and Bando Elder Mr. Tim Fleming. Jack passed away June 14, 2021 after a valiant battle and long hospitalization from the Covid virus. Jack was preceded in death by his parents, Shirley and Jack Sr, and brothers, Roger and Tim. He is survived by spouse, Mary; daughter, Angel; son, John; sister, Kathy, his grandchildren and a host of extended family and relatives. Jack was a graduate of Worthington High School class of 1974. He was a long-standing member and pastor of The Salem Baptist Church where he faithfully served for many years. Jack's kindness, spirit and character will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

Jack began his Bando training at the age of 17 with his friend from Worthington High school, Terrell LaTour. The pair studied under Saya Fleming, rising to black belt status quicker than any of their peers, by living, breathing and training in the discipline every single day. They were a force, those two, and drank from the well of Bando as if they couldn't get enough: like thirsty dragons drinking from a full blast fire hose.

Both men became assistant instructors in Mr. Fleming's school and were very dedicated to the organization and its mission, training in the system consistently for almost 50 years.

Jack was a connoisseur of old style, hard knocks Bando training, attending countless camps, seminars and tournaments all over the country. For Jack, it was not about medals, ribbons or rank, it was about participating in the community he loved; in the dirt, on the ground, sweating it out and testing himself, growing stronger every day, then doing his duty to honor our veterans and pass Bando knowledge on to others. He did his best to truly live The Way Of Discipline.

Jack stepped up and took the reins in a leadership role in Columbus Bando during the late 1980's, helping Columbus Bando revive, grow and thrive for the next generation. He assisted Al Mazzarella with numerous tournaments and events, always willing to step up and volunteer to do any tasks that needed attention, from exhibition hall set up, to printing services, to shuttling VIP's, or doing fundraising and promotion.

Dr. Gyi tasked Saya Williams to serve as director for The Animal Masters training camps held at Camp Mary Orton in Columbus, Ohio. These were memorable events designed to showcase the Bando Animal systems and designate the masters tasked with preserving and carrying the systems forward for future generations. He did an exemplary job.

We hope you will call for a moment of silent meditation for Saya Williams at your next Bando class or event and thank him for his many years of service to the organization. We would also like to thank Saya Dr. Michael R. Ports for providing friendship and medical care to Jack during his time of need.

May our hearts remain bound together in our training places, remembering Jack and all our Bando brothers and sisters who have gone before us.

Rest in Peace Saya Williams. You will be missed.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com