

Jean-Pierre Ducharme “Big John”



March 4, 1945 - January 4, 2011

DUCHARME, Jean-Pierre Also known affectionately as Big John. Son of the late Emilien Ducharme and the late Alexandrina Saumure. He was born on March 4, 1945 and passed away suddenly on January 4, 2011. John will be missed by his family: Paulette, Richard (Fernande), Mariette and his nieces and nephews. John was predeceased by his brother Denis.

Jean Pierre Ducharme also known as “Big John” started his martial arts career in 1966 at the Andre Langelier Karate Dojo in Ottawa. Over the four following years he competed in many of the local and provincial competitions, building his reputation as a formidable competitor.

In 1971, he received his Shodan from the Canadian Karate Association from the Grading board of Andre Langelier, George Sylvain and Fern Cleroux. As a black belt, he competed in local, provincial and international competitions. In 1974, he received his Nidan from the Canadian Karate Association and opened Ducharme Karate Dojo in Ottawa .

In 1980, he received his Sandan from the Canadian Karate Association during these years Big John concentrated on building his club and teaching karate producing students like Betty Hill that went on to be a top Canadian Competitor.

As time went on Jean’s Battle with Diabetes got increasingly worse and he developed more and more severe health issues and on March 4, 2011, Big John passed away.

“Big John”,
On Behalf of the Canadian Karate Association and its members,
we will always remember you.