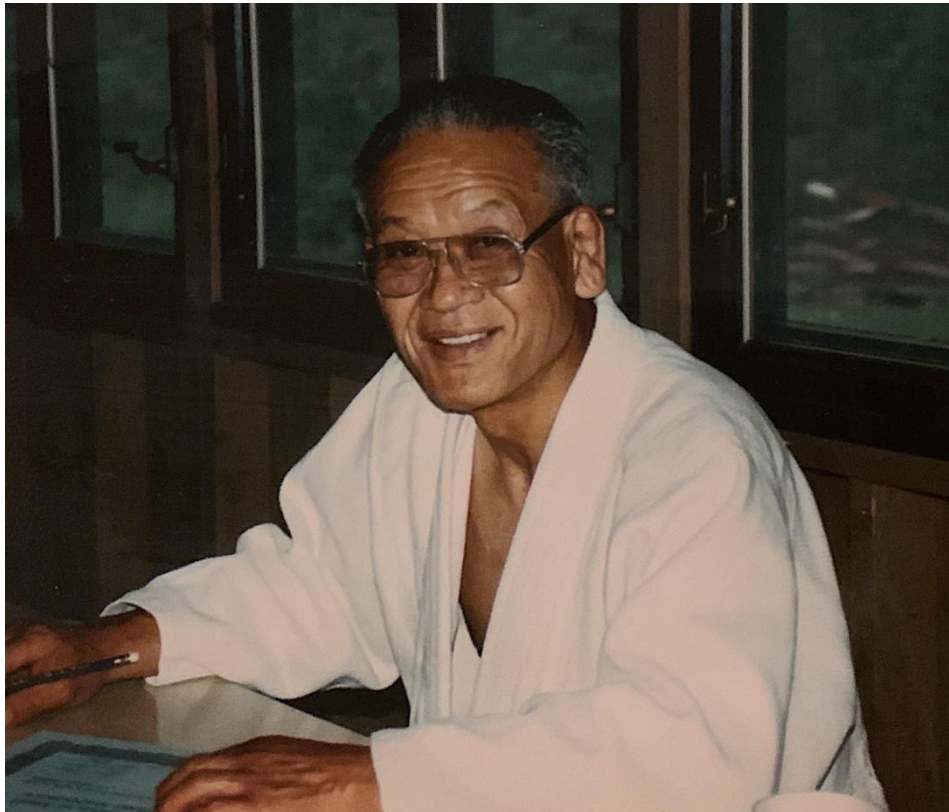


Ohio Judo Hall of Fame



RYOZO NAKAMURA

2020 Inductee



P. Jordan & R. Nakamura



Early teaching



Prof. Nakamura & his 2 youngest children

Professor Ryozo Nakamura (1930-1992) – Judo Highlights

1930 - Born in Maruyama-Cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan
1952 – Bachelor's Degree, Shimane University – Saiseika Medical School (osteopathy)
1953-1963 - Japanese Police Academy – Class A certified in special police tactics; Police Officer then manager with the All Japan Steel Company where he taught Judo to the employees and competed for his company becoming the All Japan Western Industrial Champion and took 2nd Place in the All Japan Industrial Championships. He trained and taught at the Kodokan where he was an instructor in the international section for many years
1963 – Represented the Japanese government and the Kodokan for a year in Egypt
1964 – Was a lightweight coach for the 1964 Japanese Olympic Judo Team in Tokyo
1967-1968 – Invited by U.S. judo organizations and the USOC to teach Judo at 2 universities (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CA and Northeastern in Boston) for a year each
1969-1974 – Under contract with USJF, travelled around the U.S. and Central/South America, teaching and promoting Judo in schools, colleges and law enforcement agencies – coached US International Teams, including the World Team at 1972 World Championships in Mexico City.
1972 – Became an IJF-B (International Judo Federation Continental Referee)
1973 – USJF Life Member #472
1974 – Moved to Rogers, AR and helped establish the Ichiban Sports Center
1975 – Moved to Elyria, OH and established the Nakamura Judo Institute. He also was employed for 14 years by the Lorain Co Police Dept as a specialist in corrections and as the training officer. He taught Judo classes at the Lorain County Community College.
1990 – Served as the U.S. referee at the Miki House International Women's Team Tournament in Japan

He also had served in several positions of leadership, including OJI President (1989-1991) and Chairman of the National Teachers Institute. In addition to running his own tournament each year, he organized the 1991 National Junior Olympics in Elyria, OH.

Professor Nakamura brought Judo to many people around the globe and we were extremely fortunate that he settled in Ohio and gave of himself to enhance the Judo experience of many of us. Whether it was short interactions at various events or constant development of those close to him, he provided the physical, mental and spiritual training that is indeed Judo.