



CERTAIN VICTORY

Breathing the Martial Arts

By Robert J. Ott · Photos by: Christa Gillespie and Kickpics.net



Often I find myself sitting in the office of my dojang towards the later part of the day allowing time for the mind to relax and the body to slow down. It seems like in these days of life there is never enough time in the day nor the ability to have each project operate smoothly with no errors. Nevertheless I am all so grateful each day and truly appreciative of many things in my life. As I sat down this evening to begin writing this article the understanding of how I only have 6 days left until one of my true, greatly respected, fellow Flowering Warriors would be arriving to both stay and teach at my home and dojang. Being a person who would not be alive today if it was not for Martial Arts I put my heart in to each project it brings me. In life we as people begin to really realize the old saying of how true good friends can be counted on one hand. What I have also come to realize is that the same goes with knowing fellow Martial Artists who live, love and breathe this practice.

The first of these two incredible life lessons, that I lea was familiar with the name and heard many good things about Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth many years before I was actually able to meet this honorable man. It was in 2009 at an event titled "The Gathering" that was located in Sault Saint Marie, Canada. This event was the 70 year birthday celebration for Grandmaster Rudy timmerman. At this special occasion I was asked to be the Key Note Speaker in conjunction with the writer of a cover page article titled "The Movers & the Shakers." The article was about 10 fellow Korean Martial Artists who shared the passion above and beyond the normal call of duty. Needless to say 2 out of those 10 people on the cover of that magazine just so happened to be myself and Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth.

As I bowed and shook his hand the first thing he shared to me is how he would love to purchase my book (Biography titled "Certain Victory") but only with my signature. That is when the relationship began.

He is Known in his dojang as the Hae Jang Nim. The main headquarters of his dojang is called the "Com-



plete Self Defense" which is located in Moorebank, NSW, Australia. Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth began his study in 1977 under a Korean Man who went by the name of Grandmaster Lee. Grandmaster Lee had an 8th Dan Black Belt in ITF Tae Kwon Do under the founder Grandmaster General Choi Hong Hi. He also had a 4th Dan in Hapkido. Grandmaster Lee integrated Hapkido in to his Tae Kwon Do by calling it "Ho Shin Sool" (Self Defense) so that there was no political issues with the International TaeKwon-Do Federation. While Geoff Booth continued to study under Grandmaster Lee he also had the opportunity of learning Judo, Southern Shaolin Tiger & Dragon Kung Fu under Sifu Yung. During this time of training Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth earned his 3rd Dan Black Belt under Grandmaster Lee, a Colored rank belt in Judo and a Black Sash under Sifu Yung. Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth began to hear of "Hapkido" as a stand alone name in the early 1980's by a fellow work colleague who had just recently started learning this art. The first time he came to know about the well known Founder Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae was through the reading of the official manual of the Korean Hapkido organization he was currently with during that time. The organization seemingly had no connection with Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae yet still

referred to him as the "Senior" of all Hapkido. It was during that same time that he also witnessed Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae in the "Hapkido" movie that was titled "Lady Kungfu." In 1993 the Hapkido instructor Grandmaster Kim retired thus Geoff J. Booth was now in search of a new Grandmaster to learn more of what was slowly becoming a way of life for him. So with little hesitation Geoff J. Booth hopped on an air plane to Las Angelas, USA to train under Master Fariborz Azhakh. It was during that training that he noticed a certificate on the wall signed by Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae. After he queried to Master Azhakh regarding this Geoff J. Booth found himself on a plane in a matter of days flying to Monterey, CA. to officially meet Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae and begin a long journey. The first week of training consisted of Geoff J. Booth demonstrating all of his techniques and even his teaching skills. Following that first visit Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth new in his mind that he must learn and practice under Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae. In less then 4 months Geoff J. Booth returned back to the States with 11 of his students. Shortly after that Doju Nim Grandmaster Ji Han Jae traveled to Australia to continue his teachings to Geoff J. Booth and his students. As the training continued Geoff J. Booth had over 100 students in 2 different locations. The classes had been held in the evenings and on weekends yet during the day his full time job was that of a Stock Broker. It was during this time that he was offered an opportunity to become a Partner with Shares. It was then that he can only describe as an epiphany that told him to say "Thanks but no thanks." Today the value would be worth over \$6,000,000.00 if Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth would have taken that Share Package and gone that direction. That was the time when he truly realized that "Hapkido" was his way of living, loving and breathing for the years to come. Within 3 months of this change in life he opened up his first dojang which was slightly over 6500 square feet in size. Each action and or decision of business and teaching of the art mattered greatly to Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth. From the quality of his dojang to the method of teaching. With having hundreds of students and the name of his dojang becoming well known throughout the Country of Australia and the World he then began to work on having a superior DVD set created to truly teach students Hapkido even from a distance. His most recent training DVD set is a true testament of his passion in wanting to give the best to his students. The DVD set was filmed with 4 HD cameras and was done with Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth teaching directly to the camera. He broke down,

explained, & demonstrated each technique from White to 4th Dan Black Belt down the camera lens as if he was talking to the viewer directly using the same words, & movements that he would in person. As a result this DVD set became a true tool for all of his students and or association members who are in different parts of the world yet still wish to study his art of Hapkido.

So as my mind continues to prepare it self for his arrival I can not help but to realize that as of now this (My dojang "The Temple of Certain Victory") will be his last stop for the 2012 World Tour. I have traveled much in my life but never to the level that this fellow Flowering Warrior has so in life. After leaving his home town over 2 months ago Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth has instructed all over the world.

The statistics are 73 days of travel, 10 countries, 25 flights and over 30 seminar days of teaching and sharing. That my fellow Martial Artists is nothing but a salacious drive in sharing the Flowering Warrior Spirit to others!



It is a gift In life to have a relationship with a Man such as Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth and nothing but a true honor to the practitioners and I to be learning from him. Upon his arrival here in the Great Northwest Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth will be picked up at the airport via a professional transportation company. On that first evening I will be having dinner catered by Chef Ricardo Nelson. It will be one of relaxation and togetherness with my immediate students and our special guest. On the next day of Saturday May 19, of 2012 The Temple of Certain Victory and I will be honored to introduce the guests to Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth. Having observed his outstanding methods of teaching several times in the past I can not help but to smile for the knowing of his knowledge and goodness that he will be able to share to each of the participants is truly one of a kind. During the lunch break Chef Murph Miner will be catering to

www.certainvictory.com

CERTAIN VICTORY

CERTAIN VICTORY

Breathing the Martial Arts



the special guests. That particular Chef comes from one of my businesses titled "Bobby Jayz" which is named after my 4 year old Son Robert J. Ott Jr. Towards the end of this special one of a kind gathering my Son Bobby will be testing in front of the guests and Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth for his first stripe on his belt. At this point in time my Son is too young to understand what an honor and a gift it is to be able to perform his skills in front of such a well known Grandmaster. Nevertheless there will come a day when the reality will come to him. For now it simply brings tears of happiness to me!

Following that I, with Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth by my side, will be presenting a gift of testament that shows indomitable spirit to a young man who goes by the name of Pedro Loza. He will be awarded a "Pil-Sung" Medal of Honor from The Temple of Certain Victory, my Students and of course our Special Guest Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth. This warrior is currently a candidate for Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do under Master Michael H. Schroeder (Who is currently preparing for his 6th Dan promotion in Tae Kwon Do.) This dedicated student Pedro Loza, received a kidney transplant as a young child and as of most recently has been excepted in to a Jr. College. With him self needing Special Education Classes through his years of school he is a true example of what I call "Certain Victory!"

Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth gives his respect to many other Grandmasters around the world for many reasons. One of those are simply putting up with him for he has always been and is to this day one that is out spoken

regarding his art. The largest hope that he shares is that we as practitioners can and will prevent the loss of quality in Martial Arts to happen. In his feelings he shares the need for Masters to come together to support and protect the practice from falling through the cracks and losing the foundations that make the study what it is today.

The style of Hapkido that Hae Jang Nim Geoff J. Booth teaches is called Kwan Nyom which translates in to "School of Concepts." His Hapkido is very system/concept driven and has a unique approach to teaching. "Our teaching is of Self Defence concepts and applications versus specific responses to preset grabs and or attacks" is what he shares in his seminars.

I will never question the value of stepping back to step forward but in having true relationships with people such as Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth it is what I would call "Full speed ahead!" It has been all so clear to my eyes that "Goodness brings goodness in life." Having the many wonderful Martial Artists come to visit my Temple of Certain Victory only continues to pass on the realization that we as practitioners will always know less then we know and be humble in life. For being that type of person allows one to meet an individual such as Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth.

I truly recommend for those who are true Martial Arts Practitioners to find out more about Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth for he is one that will always live, love and breathe the art of Hapkido. I embrace his methods of teaching and his personality of truth, honor and respect. For more information feel free to go to his website:

www.hapkido.com.au

As I end this article the thought of how more then half of the locations that Grandmaster Geoff J. Booth instructed on his 11th year of world tour here in the United States are ones that I originated from back in the days when I was still learning what "Pil-Sung" (Certain Victory) truly defined. What is so interesting is the fact that his visit to those dojangs had nothing to do with the relationships I have with those very special instructors, instead it showed another prime example of how real true Martial Artists can see another real true Martial Artist from many miles away! 🐉

www.certainvictory.com

CERTAIN VICTORY

Flowering Warrior

ENTERPRISES, LLC.

CLOSE to 30 years of practice and study in Korean Martial Arts has become the way of life in which he lives and breathes. The story of how Chief Master Robert J. Ott overcame his blindness in 1990 and how he transformed from a victim to a survivor has come to re-enforce the definition of Pil-Sung. Today, Robert emanates the cohesion between darkness and light through his biography "Certain Victory" and the production of his DVDs that display a true Flowering Warrior.



CHIEF MASTER ROBERT J. OTT

2011 FLOWERING WARRIOR PRODUCTS NOW AT TAEKWONDOTIMES.COM & CERTAINVICTORY.COM

ONE OF A KIND COLLECTOR'S ITEM SPECIAL EDITION HARDCOVER

A treasure for any true Korean Martial Arts student or instructor! This Flowering Warrior-crafted special edition includes the original biography Certain Victory By Chief Master Robert J. Ott & the recently completed Part II featuring 9 new chapters, photos, biographies of well known practitioners, philosophies & a chapter on Tae Kwon Do Times Magazine. Included is a three-page pull-out poster with a description of the Flowering Warrior Enterprises, LLC mark. Also included is the DVD Setting the Course.

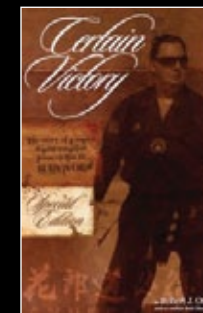
\$49.95 not including shipping and sales tax*

\$18.95 (BOOK ONLY - NO DVD) not including shipping and sales tax*

NEW DVD "SETTING THE COURSE"

Over 40 minutes demonstrating the teaching & unification of Korean Martial Artists & the most pristine organizations that exist today. Focus will be on fellow Moosa working together to ensure our continuous progress. DVD displays the proper ways in hosting seminars & what living and breathing true Korean Martial Arts in life is about.

\$29.95 not including shipping and sales tax*



THE OFFICIAL FILMED DOCUMENTARY on the life of Chief Master Robert J. Ott with footage taking you through the journey that lives and breathes Pil-Sung!

\$29.95 not including shipping and sales tax*

9 CD AUDIO BOOK VERSION OF CERTAIN VICTORY
with bonus DVD

\$29.95 not including shipping and sales tax*

ORIGINAL HARDCOVER VERSION OF CERTAIN VICTORY
SOLD OUT

ORIGINAL PAPERBACK VERSION OF CERTAIN VICTORY

\$14.95 not including shipping and sales tax*

To learn more about seminars, motivational speaking, and certification for you and your dojang please visit www.certainvictory.com. Read numerous testimonies on the products and services offered by Chief Master Robert J. Ott. Articles written by and/or about Chief Master Ott are also available as well as videos, photos, event information and much more!