



## Mr. Randall G. Hassell

June 5, 1948 - August 4, 2015

Randall was born in St Louis to Harold and Alma [nee Raby] Hassell.

Randy was an internationally recognized authority on the history of traditional Shotokan karate and the published author of 28 books. He taught karate to thousands of students in the St. Louis area for more than 45 years through his own club, school districts, and YMCAs.

He also served in the United States Air Force.

He is survived by his wife of 29 years, Marilyn [nee Camden];  
four children: Brian [Ivy] Hassell, Sherri [Cecil] Cash, Teresa [Jesse] Althen,  
Dawn [Craig] Moncey;  
nine grandchildren: Jennifer [Steve] Sachse, Jonathan Walton, Taylor Miller,  
Alyssa Cash, Anthony Cash, Cameron Cash, Ian Althen, Keith Althen, and  
McKenna Moncey.

Also surviving are his Mother, Alma Hassell and one brother, Russell [Leslie] Hassell.

He was preceded in death by his Father, Harold.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.



# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

AUG 8. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Valhalla Funeral Chapel, Crematory and Cemetery  
7600 St. Charles Rock Road  
St. Louis, MO 63133  
(314) 721-4900  
<https://www.valhallafunerals.net>

### Funeral Ceremony

AUG 8. 4:00 PM (CT)

Valhalla Funeral Chapel, Crematory and Cemetery  
7600 St. Charles Rock Road  
St. Louis, MO 63133  
(314) 721-4900  
<https://www.valhallafunerals.net>

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Dave Martinez** - August 11, 2020 at 02:17 PM



*Sensei Hassell teaching technique was powerful and evidence of excellence !*

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**Dave Martinez** - August 11, 2020 at 02:25 PM

RT

“ I am saddened to hear, did not know of Sensei Hassell's passing. Our Uechi-Ryu dojo's at the North County and North West County YMCA, under our Sensei Larry Jennings would participate in inter-dojo tournaments at Mr. Hassell's dojo on Woodson back in the 70's. He and his students were excellent traditional karateka.  
*Russ Thompson*

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**Russ Thompson** - May 12, 2016 at 01:17 PM

MB

“ I was a student of Mr. Hassell at a YMCA in Edwardsville, IL near St. Louis.

*Mr. Hassell called me at home the day after a 3rd degree black belt broke my hand during karate class. I will never forget his concern and encouragement to me. I admired him so much in my early teenage years. His instruction and example gave me direction. His books were read by me over and over again. Inspiring, uplifting and valuable were his words and example. Thank you, Hassell Sensei, for Karate-Do.*

*Mike Brennan  
Phoenix, AZ*

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**Mike Brennan** - May 03, 2016 at 10:52 PM

RA

“ I Knew Mr. Hassel about 1987 after read some of his articles in some American Karate Mags. Since then have become his admirer. His books are masterpieces. May God Bless his soul.

*Roberto Sant Anna-Brazil WTKO-Representative*

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**Roberto Sant Anna** - October 24, 2015 at 05:07 PM

AM

“ Hassell sensei was the one who invited me to the 1975 Japan World Karate-do US elimination in Los Angeles, CA. I am very grateful to him who had chosen me to be one of the members to represent the Midwest. I also have many of his karate-do books in my library. He had instill to me the karate-do way. I am grateful! May the Great I Am, continue to sustain the family during this difficult time. Provide the family with the Lord's peace.

*AO Mercado.*

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**AO Mercado** - September 09, 2015 at 04:27 PM



“ I cannot adequately express my sincerest condolences to your entire family.

*I am not sure if you remember me, but I was in your classes that Sensei and Sensei taught at my school, Block Yeshiva in Olivette, throughout my years of middle school and high school.*

*I can not thank you enough for all of the time, effort, and energy that both of you put into teaching us. As with some things in life, you sometimes only fully realize what you have when you no longer have access to them. I wish I could go back and take your classes over again. I know that I loved coming to your classes, and really and truly learned a fortune, a lot of which I still remember today-- not only for physical well being, but the life lessons you taught us as well -- such as, I still remember how Sensei told us that in Japan the price for a small coke was the same as for a big coke as people there will buy what they need and not more; they do not waste. I cannot tell you how many times I have thought of this lesson and applied it to my daily life. When I am walking through the streets of New York at night and feeling a bit nervous, I can hear your voices ringing in my ears- act big and confident because if someone comes to pick on you and you say "What do you want?" they will be more likely to leave you alone. This has proven true on numerous occasions.*

*I am so so sorry for your loss. Sensei was truly a great man; a person whom I will continue to have the utmost respect for as I strive to live my life by the lessons he and his wife imparted to me. I know I will carry your lessons with me as I attempt to follow in your footsteps, as you are the role models I have modeled myself on in order to shape the person I am today, (which is still a work in progress).*

*I wish you all much comfort during this time; and know, that Sensei lived a full life—a life, where he impacted many many people— changing the world in all he did. If only more people were like him, the world we live in today would be a completely different place. I am so privileged to have had the opportunity to learn under him and his wife and I know that I will hold those classes dear to me for many many years to come. I cannot thank you enough for giving me*

*the opportunity to learn self defense and much more under such special people, Sensei and his wife. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.*

*With my utmost Respect,  
Tamar Levy*

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**Tamar Levy** - August 30, 2015 at 07:08 PM

FT

“ *I shall miss you O' Sensi; domo arigato watakoshi no tomodachi for all you have taught & shared with me Frank Thomas & the Muskegon Karate Assn. Osu! 1-231-788-1995*

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**Frank Thomas** - August 27, 2015 at 10:47 PM



Genghis  
Whetzel

“ *There is no way for me to properly express my feeling of loss. My compassion goes to everyone lucky enough to know how wonderful he truly was. While I cannot be there at the services, my heart goes to every one of my friends, my Sempai and my family. Please know how very much he was loved and respected and sometimes feared. There was not a day that went by from my tenth birthday to this day that his teachings and inspiration have not changed my life's trajectory for the better. No one in my entire life has left the kind of permanent change and impact that Sensei has. It was an honor to be part of his life as well as have him be part of mine. And while I can never truly explain to you all how I feel, I know many of you well enough to know you feel the same way. My life has been forever altered for the better from knowing such a great man. You are missed.*

*With great loss. Genghis Whetzel*

*genghisw@gmail.com  
303-501-0484*

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**Genghis Whetzel** - August 08, 2015 at 12:19 PM

JC

“ *Jim C. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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**Jim C.** - August 08, 2015 at 11:54 AM

GW

“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



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**Genghis Whetzel** - August 08, 2015 at 10:56 AM

TD

“ *The DeGraws purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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**The DeGraws** - August 08, 2015 at 10:52 AM

JC

“ *He was a kind, gentle person with a great sense of humor. He will be missed by all who knew him !*

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**Jim Copeland** - August 08, 2015 at 10:43 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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August 08, 2015 at 10:29 AM



“ *Our family had but a brief moment with Mr. Hassell. He never mentioned his great accomplishments which speaks to his humbleness.*



*We appreciate the brief time we had to know him, and yet experienced his great character and kindness.*

*Our prayers are with your family.*

*The DeGraws*

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**Nelly DeGraw** - August 08, 2015 at 09:59 AM



“ *Health Nut Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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August 07, 2015 at 11:58 PM

RL

“ With deepest love for our cousin; may he rest in peace.  
*Roy and Bev Lamkin and Billie and Bud Murch*

Roy Lamkin - August 07, 2015 at 09:21 PM



“ 20 files added to the album Memories Album



Valhalla Funeral Chapel, Crematory and Cemetery - August 07, 2015 at 06:27 PM

JK

“ James Otter, Japan Karatedo GenbuKai of Kansas purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.



James Otter, Japan Karatedo GenbuKai of Kansas - August 07, 2015 at 04:19 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.



August 07, 2015 at 03:59 PM



“ 3 files added to the album *Training October 19, 2008 with Sensei Yabe*



Annette Vaillancourt - August 07, 2015 at 12:19 PM



“ I am so saddened to hear of Sensei's passing. Although I only trained with him a few years, I greatly appreciated his technical skills, humor and encouragement. My condolences to his family and all his students worldwide. This is a great loss.

Annette Vaillancourt - August 07, 2015 at 12:05 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.



August 07, 2015 at 12:03 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.



August 07, 2015 at 11:44 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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August 07, 2015 at 11:37 AM



“ *John, Cheryl and James Budnaitis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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**John, Cheryl and James Budnaitis** - August 07, 2015 at 11:09 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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August 07, 2015 at 08:31 AM



“ *A gift in memory of Sensei Randall Hassell has been made by the Family Karate Center West in Warrenton, MO to the American Heart Association. Thank you for all the instructions and skills you have taught your students all across the country, and especially those in our center. Nova Luebke, Luke Rausch, Gus Klaustermeier, Karen Callahan and Dan Pellegrini.*

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**Karin Klaustermeier** - August 06, 2015 at 09:09 PM

 John  
Budnaitis

“ I recently started training again and had the opportunity to attend class under Sensei Hassell on a visit to the area. Warm memories were flowing through my mind of the hundreds and thousands of previous classes surrounded by a close karate family even as the buckets of sweat were flowing out. There was tremendous joy at the warm reception given by Sensei and his current students to the prodigal son returned, even if just for the day. A precious last memory.

*Sadly, the world has lost a precious commodity, a unbending man of honor and integrity. A teacher of far more than just karate. I only hope I can live up to his expectations.*

*Sensei, you will be greatly missed every time I punch and kick.*

*Osu!*

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**John Budnaitis** - August 06, 2015 at 05:28 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.



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August 06, 2015 at 08:14 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mr. Randall G. Hassell.*



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August 05, 2015 at 11:50 PM



“ *My great friend for over 40 years. You will be missed by karateka everywhere.*  
*Dave (Swoboda) Gallagher*

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**Dave Gallagher** - August 05, 2015 at 11:05 PM