

before returning to Japan.

In 1978, *Kanazawa* decided to leave the JKA and form his own group — *Shōtōkan Karate International* (SKI). His decision was influenced very much by dissention within the JKA.

Throughout the Seventies, Eighties and Nineties, he spent half his life traveling to over one hundred countries worldwide and SKIF now boasts a membership of over 2.4 million students.

In my own autobiography, I refer to *Kanazawa Sensei* as the world's finest teacher of *Shōtōkan Karate*, which he undoubtedly is.

During the past sixty-four years, he has devoted himself totally to the practice, understanding and development of *Karate-dō*. Millions have benefited from his teaching, and amazingly, most feel they have a personal relationship with the Master, a tribute to his extraordinary communication skills.

Now at the age of eighty-six he has finally stopped traveling the world and confines his teaching and personal training to his native Japan.

Sadly, as he heads towards his nineties advancing years will take their inevitable toll. One thing is absolutely certain. When his time does eventually come, his passing will be mourned by millions of students, both past and present, in every corner of the globe.

As I remarked many years ago— “there is only one Kanazawa and there'll never be another.”