

shocked by his frail gaunt appearance. As fellow students in 1967. I had watched him fight the best the JKA had to offer — and beat some of them. Alas — how could he have known the real enemy would come from within.

Professor Norman Williams of the Medical Unit at the Royal London Hospital was in charge of his treatment. He did everything in his power to save Eddie's life. Sadly, he failed. The frustration being experienced by the medical unit, due to lack of finance to fund much needed research into finding a cure for bowel and colorectal cancer, was blatantly obvious.

It was a proud moment for me, when I announced to Professor Williams that the members of the *Traditional Association of Shōtōkan Karate (TASK)* had unanimously agreed to support his research. Our target would be £50,000.

So began the biggest ever fundraising event in martial arts history when “Karate vs Cancer” was born. It lasted nine months and culminated on 30th September 1990 with a massive display of punching at TASK's *Honbu* (headquarters) in Bedford.

Martial artists from all over England responded magnificently and special thanks went to Greg Durant and Mick Nursey. As the 30th September 1990 drew to a close, it was fitting that Eddie Whitcher's two children, Clinton and Camille, should present Professor Williams with the cheque. It amounted to a staggering



*Clinton and Camille Whitcher*