General Choi, Hong Hi
Founder of TaeKwon-Do
IXth Degree
(1918 – 2002)

After a life dedicated to the development of Taekwon-Do, a modern martial art based on traditional values, philosophy, and training, General Choi Hong Hi, Founder of Taekwon-Do and President of the International Taekwon-Do Federation, died of cancer on June 15th, 2002, in Pyongyang, North Korea, the country of his birth. General Choi, 83 at the time of his passing, was buried in a State Funeral, in the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery of North Korea.

General Choi is recognized around the world as the Father of Taekwon-Do and the Founder of the International Taekwon-Do Federation (ITF) and he created the ITF system that we know today. The world will remember General Choi as a patriot, a soldier, a visionary, and the Father of Taekwon-Do.

His contribution to humanity will not be measured in monetary terms but in the values, morals and philosophy his martial art has instilled in the millions of its practitioners throughout the world. When asked if he ever regretted dedicating his life to Taekwon-Do, he stated: “I taught Taekwon-Do without regard to race, religion, nationality, or ideology. In this respect, I am the happiest man in the world, and I am proud to have left my footprint in this world.”

His place in history is secure as he will live in the hearts and minds of all those who love Taekwon-Do.