One of my favorite stories is of my son, Nathan from the summer of 1995.

We were at the Kodokan with a group from Nanka in 1995 that included Hal Sharp. Daigo Sensei came up to the big dojo in his gi to greet him and our group.

Nathan who was 10 at the time, asked me if it would be ok to invite Daigo to randori. So I went over to talk with Sharp and see if that would be appropriate, however it was too late.

Nathan and Daigo were in the middle of the tatami and everyone there, some 200+ judoka had moved to the side. For the next few minutes Daigo and him traded throws than bowed out to a big roaring round of applauds!

When it was over Nathan said to me 'Dad never give away the (blue) belt I wore when I worked with the head of the Kodokan, (which we still have)!'

Sensei Gary





