

San Mateo Police Activities League

Tessa Richards Memorial Fund

Donation Form

Tessa Richards joined the PAL Judo team at 8 years of age in the year 2000. Before joining Judo, Tessa had been experiencing depression and identity problems. The PAL Judo team welcomed her with open hearts and she quickly became the most inspirational member of the team. She became the star of the beginner class and won every game she played, including games against the boys. Tessa brought a natural sense of mental toughness, determination, and fearlessness to her study of Judo. In the year 2004, Tessa won her second consecutive Junior Nationals Championship title. According to Judo rules, Tessa had to wait until age 15 to receive her first degree black belt, also referred to as Shodan. She was promoted to purple belt at age 13. On August 18, 2005, Tessa, her sister Alexa, and their mother Nicole, were tragically murdered at their home in San Mateo. Their father, Anthony Richards, citing insurmountable financial problems, killed his family before committing suicide. At Tessa's memorial service, Tessa was posthumously awarded the rank of Shodan by her Sensei Officer Mike Buckle. All nine of the black belts from the San Mateo PAL Judo Club presented their black belts to be laid to rest with Tessa, the highest honor that a Judoka can be awarded. While Tessa's death has left the PAL organization with a hole that will never be filled, there is comfort in seeing the influence she has left behind on her teammates that all aspire to be like her. With the experiences Tessa found in Judo, she was able to find true happiness in knowing who she was and what she could accomplish to fulfill her dreams.

Thank you for your interest in helping the San Mateo Police Activities League (PAL) through the Tessa Richards Memorial Fund! Funds will support Tessa's favorite programs: Judo and Fishing. Please complete this form and enclose it with your choice of payment. Mail to: San Mateo Police Activities League, 2000 S. Delaware Street, San Mateo, CA 94403 or Fax to: (650) 522-7551

Name (as you wish listed): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

I would like to support San Mateo PAL with the following amount: _____

Please select how you would like to make your donation:

_____ One-time
_____ Monthly
_____ Three year

Please note that gifts can be paid by check, credit card, or using our electronic funds transfer system (EFT) to spread out payments. Please select which option works best for you.

_____ Check

_____ Credit card Card # _____
 Type _____
 Exp. Date _____
 Signature _____

_____ EFT Begin donation (month/year) _____
 Rate _____ annual _____ monthly
 End donation (month/year) _____
 Acct.# _____