

A Twin Falls native nearly all his life, Dr. Wiley Dobbs was the first of Wes and Janet Dobbs three sons. Lt. Colonel Wes Dobbs, then a young private, spent the end of WWII and the years immediately following in Japan in the U.S. Army where he became fascinated with Sumo and Judo spending his leave taking the train to the fighting pits all over Japan. At a record setting pace, Wes became a black belt in Judo and those years and experiences left a deep and wide imprint on the Dobbs family for generations.

Wiley grew up in a judo gi (ghēē) alongside the Hirais, the Benkulas, the Beutlers, the Matsuokas-he was 14 or 15 before he realized he wasn't Japanese. To Wiley and his brothers, sports and judo were life itself.

Continuing to train and compete in judo, Wiley also got degrees in Kinesiology and Social Science, essentially so he could become a coach. He surprised himself more than anyone when he realized he loved teaching as much as coaching. He probably would never have left teaching if someone hadn't smashed into the pickup he drove. It took so long for the insurance company to pay for the damage to his pickup that by the time the check finally arrived, Wiley had grown entirely used to the damaged body and didn't really mind getting in out out Dukes of Hazard -style because the door wouldn't open and the window was broken out. So he enrolled in a masters program instead. . .

Two and half decades later, Superintendent Dobbs is at last retiring from the Twin Falls School District. Presiding over nineteen schools, hundreds of Congressional Award winners and well over one hundred thousand students through the years, the question arises "what took him so long?"

In 2004, recognizing how desperately uncivilized and in need of culture his friend was, Danny Marona asked Wiley to be on the inaugural board of the Danny Marona Performing Arts Scholarship Foundation. This cemented a long lasting, unwholesome and largely irreverent, friendship.

As Wiley's tenure with the Twin Falls School District comes to a close, he is most proud of the fact that he remains undefeated, in both bar fights and bond levies.