

## The 36<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Marathon – Hopkinton – Marathon , Greece

### Wreaths to Connect Hopkinton, Massachusetts, Marathon, Greece and the Marine Corps Marathon ... Will Honor Stylianos Kyriakides



Wreaths with historic significance will be presented to the organizers of the Marine Corps Marathon in honor of Stylianos Kyriakides and his 1946 Boston Marathon win. The wreaths are fashioned from branches from olive trees located in Marathon, Greece. The gold, silver, and bronze plated wreaths and will be presented to the men and women winners of the 36<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Marathon, which will be run on Sunday, October 30, 2011.

#### The Donors

- Dimitri Kyriakides  
Dimitri is the son of Stylianos Kyriakides
- The Municipality of Marathon, Greece, which has a sister-city relationship with Hopkinton, Massachusetts
- The 26.2 Foundation (HAA)  
A non-profit 501(c) 3 organization its mission is to promote and support the sport of marathoning, as well as health, wellness and economic development initiatives through

strategic investments in innovative, multi-generational programs on local, regional, national, and global levels.



### **The 36<sup>th</sup> Marathon Corps Marathon**

In its long history, the MCM has not only made a name for itself as the fifth largest US Marathon and ninth largest in the world, but stands as the largest marathon in the world that doesn't offer prize money, earning its nickname, "The People's Marathon."

[http://www.marinemarathon.com/MCM\\_Vault/MCM\\_History.htm](http://www.marinemarathon.com/MCM_Vault/MCM_History.htm)

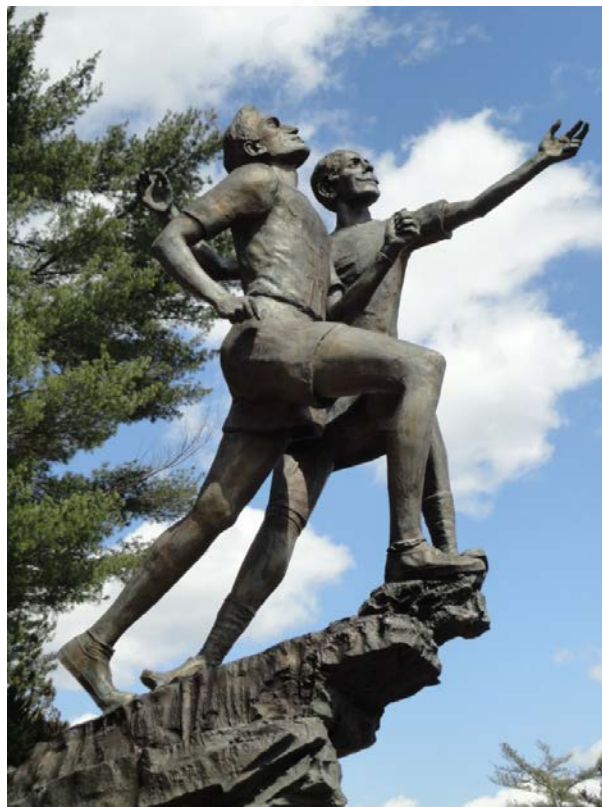
### **Stylios Kyriakides**

Stylios Kyriakides was the winner of the 50<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon. He used his triumph to draw attention to the plight of his war and famine ravaged homeland. Emaciated and having narrowly escaped execution during world War II while Nazis occupied Greece, Kyriakides hadn't raced in six years when he came to Boston in 1946. Despite being told by doctors that he shouldn't run, Kyriakides ended up winning, ultimately defeating defending champion Johnny Kelley. With victory as a public platform, Kyriakides then went on to serve as an unofficial ambassador for his country, raising money for reconstruction and strengthening international ties between the United States and Greece. He was and still is a symbol of the inspirational nature of the marathon event and its international history

His story is told in a book by Andy Dabilis and Nick Tsiotos entitled, *Stylios Kyriakides, The Miracle Marathoner*.



This Mico Kaufman sculpture, unveiled in 2006, is located at the 1 mile mark on the Boston Marathon course in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. It honors Stylianos Kyriakides and his 1946 Boston Marathon win. The other figure is of Spiridon Louis, winner of the first modern-day Olympic Marathon run in 1896.



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