

STYLIANOS KYRIAKIDES

The documentary you are about to see was produced by NBC television for the 2004 Olympic games of Athens and was shown worldwide immediately after the finish of the Olympic marathon.

It won the EMMY award as the best sports documentary of 2004.

It is the story of STYLIANOS KYRIAKIDES, a great and successful athlete, one of the best marathon runners in the world before and after the war, but most important an even greater, compassionate human being, who used his fame and glory after his victory in the 1946 Boston marathon, not for personal gain, but to help his war ravaged country and the starving dying Greek people.

Kyriakides in 1946 had the best time in the world and the European marathon record.

-----SHOWING THE VIDEO-----

Kyriakides after his audience with President Truman, secured what was called in the US in 1946, the “KYRIAKIDES AID PACKAGE”, that consisted of two shiploads of grain, tinned and dry foods, tents, blankets, medicine, second hand cloth and other urgently needed items as well as donations of 250,000 dollars, that came to Greece.

Kyriakides was a pioneer in reviving amateur athletics in Greece in the early 50's after the end of civil war in 1949 and dedicated all his life serving amateur sports especially for the young people.

He died in 1987, at the age of 77, the lucky number he had chosen to wear and win Boston. He always said that 7 was his lucky number.

In 2002 a book was published in the US about KYRIAKIDES life, call "RUNNING WITH PHEIDIPPIDES" and was translated in Greek with the title "BORN WINNER"

Statues of Kyriakides are now standing at the start of the marathon courses the cities of Marathon and Boston, The statue has the name "THE SPIRIT OF MARATHON".

Permanent exhibits about KYRIAKIDES are now open at the sports museums of NEW ENGLAND in Boston, called "STYLIANOS KYRIAKIDES RUNNING FOR THE HUMAN RACE" in Marathon at the museum of the HISTORY OF MARATHON and the museum in the stadium of FILOTHEY ATHLETIC CLUB, that he built himself and is now named after him.

A film is now in production in Hollywood about the life of this great athlete and humanitarian.