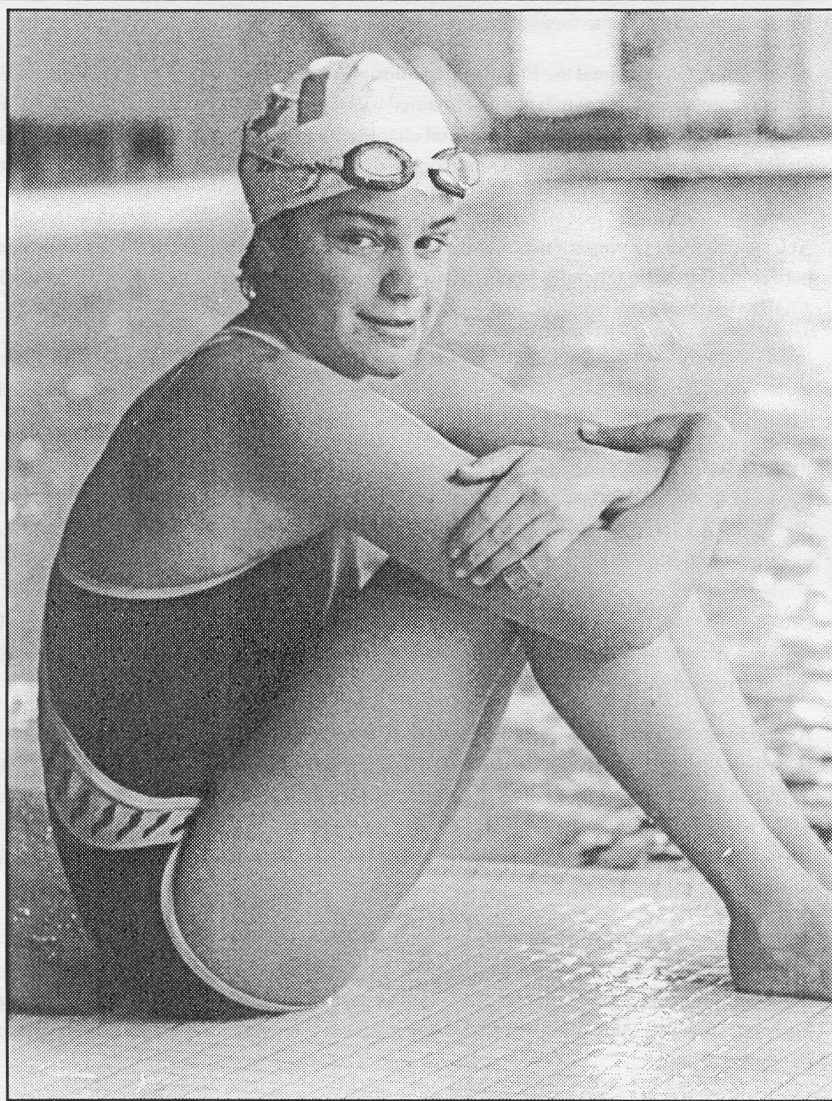


# Jocelyn Muir-Saunders



**Ontario Aquatic Hall of Fame**

Inducted as Athlete in 2001

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The magnitude and uniqueness of Jocelyn Muir's achievements in the water place her amongst Ontario's top distance swimmers.

Jocelyn's early experience as a Granite Club competitive swimmer did not foretell the rare combination of speed, endurance and determination that would inspire her remarkable feats. After two years of distance swimming, however, an increasing desire to be the best led Jocelyn to her successes.

With the support of family, friends, fellow AK-O-MAK campers and coaches Joan and Cliff Lumsdon, Jocelyn set her sights high. In September 1981, at age 15, she became the youngest person ever to complete the 32-mile crossing of Lake Ontario. Her time of less than 16 hours was not far off the record established by 16 year old Cindy Nicholas in 1974.

The following year, at Atlantic City, Jocelyn won the women's World Championship in Marathon Swimming, and in 1986 Jocelyn was the only woman among six swimmers who completed the 16-kilometer swim from West Vancouver's Sandy Cove to Kitsilano Beach. She then swam from Canada Place to Expo to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis, conquering the riptides under Lions Gate Bridge. Her satisfaction was enhanced by the knowledge that she had raised \$20,000 for the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Lake Ontario was again the setting for Jocelyn's next marathon, arguably her most impressive. On July 1, 1987, she set out from Toronto Harbour to swim around Lake Ontario in support of Multiple Sclerosis. Swimming about 7 hours daily, six days a week, Jocelyn completed the 521 nautical-mile marathon just 60 days later on August 29. Regularly battling pollution and hypothermia, she set world records in the process. In addition to being the first to swim around Lake Ontario, she was also the first to swim the Tonawanda to Oswego stretch of the Erie Canal. Her swim was also the longest international marathon ever and the longest completed in a wet suit. The staggering sum of more than \$250,000 raised for Multiple Sclerosis was the largest charitable contribution by a long distance solo swim.

By the following year, Jocelyn had turned her considerable talents and ambitions to Triathlon. For more than a decade she competed in dozens of them across Canada, the United States and beyond. Her first place finish in the 1997 Danskin Triathlon, a relay for a Pregnant Woman Shelter, was accomplished while she herself was six months pregnant. She also had first and second place finishes in the Great Floridian Ironman in 1999 and 2000.

Jocelyn is a coach for the Pike Creek Current Swim Team in Newark, Delaware. She resides there with husband Blair, five year old daughter Brooke who is also a swimmer, and son Brett who is three.

The Ontario Aquatic Hall of Fame is proud to induct outstanding distance swimmer, Jocelyn Muir-Saunders.