

Go!Go!Go!
Go Goudas Go!



**a new dimension
in swimming**

Peter Spyros Goudas
transcribed by Bernadette Scott

Go! Go! Go! - Go Goudas Go!
Kalamaki - late 50's

For some time now Mr. Goudas has mentioned to us a 'story'. We cannot categorize it, whether it is a tragedy, or a comedy, we will let you decide.

We are also unsure as to what the appropriate title should be.

The following titles were suggested:

The Swimmer, A Kid in Trouble, The Drowning Kid, The Naked Swimmer, Desperate Moments, The Jumping King, "Go! Goudas Go!"..

We worked very hard to capture the full meaning of the story. Therefore, we would like to take you back to the beginning of the biography. Spyros Peter Goudas was born in an area of Greece called Kalamaki, a beautiful town, and a suburb of Athens, overlooking the Saronikos.

Like any other immigrant in this country he is very proud of the town where he was born.

We also mentioned that he was an avid swimmer and a member of the Kalamaki Swimming Team as a



young boy.

During adolescence and as a consequence of the physical demands of his job, he developed extraordinary muscles that forced him to engage in recreational swimming only.

The fact is that a person with a muscular, bodybuilding physique does not swim well. They can float but they cannot participate in competitive swimming.



For this you need a smooth, flowing body, somewhat like Johnny Weissmuller's of Tarzan's fame, so that you can slide across the water. Hence, Spyros' athletic body prevented him from accomplishing this feat.

The town of Kalamaki is located in an area of the Saronikos, frequented



by many tourists because the beaches between Old Faliro to Sounio are some of the most beautiful and idyllic in the world.

Kalamakiotes (the name that the people from Kalamaki are called), are very proud of this and one of the resulting products of this environment was a strong Kalamaki Swimming Team, despite the fact that they never won the Pan-Hellenic Swimming Championship.

Around the summer of either 1956-57 or 58, the Pan Hellenic Championship was being held at the Athens Swimming Venue. Spectators and lovers of the sport had purchased tickets months in advance.

Spyros, together with some of his friends, thought it would be a good idea to attend this event, to have



a good time and to provide moral support for the Kalamaki team, which included his young sister, a champion in the young girls' category, and a participant in this event.

The games progressed through the various categories, for example men women or boy/girl categories, 50 metres, 100 metres, backstroke, freestyle, butterfly, and so on.

Everything was progressing very well, with lots of excitement due to the fact that Kalamaki was winning, and the Kalamakiotes were becoming louder and louder each time one of their own emerged a winner.

King Pavlos and Queen Frederica were in attendance and were quite serious and stately, as required of royalty.



Additionally, the entire event was being broadcast live through the media. It was coming close to the end of the games, with one event left to be completed, the 200-metre, which was the most important.

This particular event required one swimmer from each team to swim for 200 metres, the first 50 - freestyle,

return 50 - breaststroke, third 50 - backstroke and fourth 50 - butterfly.

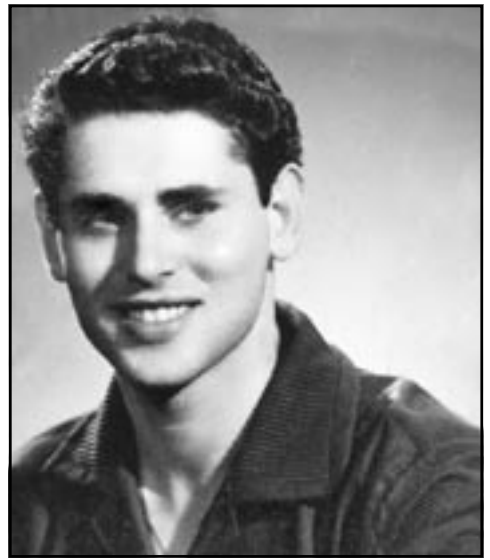
The fact that Kalamaki was winning only required this final competitor to finish the race, regardless of which place he was in, first or last. Kalamaki was already celebrating because they knew they had one of the best swimmers in this category. Spyros Peter was sitting and pre-celebrating among his friends and fellow Kalamakiotes.

Suddenly, he noticed that some friends were signaling to him from the poolside. When he finally made his way down to them, they requested that he should follow them into the change room.

At that time they informed him that their champion, who was scheduled to swim next, had suddenly become ill (diarrhea or something) and it was not possible to replace him with any of the swimmers who had already taken part in the previous races.

Since he was the brother of Marina, who was a champion swimmer, and since they were well aware of his swimming capabilities, both as a former competitive swimmer and as a regular at the beach, they thought he would be the best candidate to replace the ill competitor.

Spyros was hesitant and tried to decline the offer. But before he could even say "Johnny Weissmuller" they were already undressing him and



were physically putting him into the swimming trunks of the ill competitor, which turned out to be a little too big for him.

The next thing he knew, he was being carried to and positioned on to the diving podium with some resistance because he was still undecided as to whether he should assume this responsibility. But when he heard the Kalamaki fans calling his name and enthusiastically shouting,

"Go! Go! Go! Go Goudas Go!", and the coach simultaneously instructing him to "make Kalamaki proud" and to remember that he did not have to win, just finish the race, he felt a wave of excitement run through his body. Before he could think any further, he heard the announcer with the countdown, "3, 2, 1" and the sound of the starter pistol "Boom". Instinctively, he dove into the water, and to the surprise of everyone, including himself, the swim trunks, which were a little bigger than his

size, automatically slid down and came off his body. Shocked, he quickly tried to retrieve them, but they were already sinking to the bottom of the pool. In the mean time the crowd continued to shout: “Go Goudas Go!”

Obviously, everyone was laughing because of this new dimension in swimming, “the naked swimmer”. He continued swimming only to find out almost halfway through his first 50-metres that he met the competitors on their return stretch.

Upon his arrival at the first 50-metre point, he discovered that the other swimmers had already arrived too.

He made the turn to begin the next level, the breaststroke, when he realized that the others were doing the butterfly.

With his mouth full of water, blinded by the chlorine he was not used to, and his muscles already getting tighter and tighter, he struggled to continue.

When his competitors finally finished the race and the crowd began to shout bravo, bravo to the winners, Spyros was still trying to finish the first 100 metres.

Upon his arrival, he tried to tell his coach and teammates that he was unable to continue and was completely exhausted, but the coach forcefully instructed him to “Go, Go, Go”! He had no choice but to persist.

The next stretch, the backstroke was very embarrassing for him but all the girls had a good time.

They cheered him on constantly.

So with his new antenna navigation system he tried to do his best.

However, he was drinking water left and right, and with a determination way beyond his abilities and effort, after a long battle, he finally approached the end of the 150 metres, at which point an ambulance had already been dispatched to pick him up in case of an emergency.

Not only the Kalamaki team, but also the swimming committee, along with the competition, even King Pavlos and his Queen, were standing up and pointing in the other direction of the finishing position, shouting with encouragement:

“Go Goudas Go!”

At this point he made up his mind to continue farther despite the tons of water he had swallowed to make the effort to complete the 50 metres of the butterfly stroke.

His arms seemed to weigh a ton through the fact that his muscles were locked, and his chest was not able to get any air because they were filled with water.

He was overwhelmed with the media broadcast and with the crowd standing up and continuing the “Go! Go! Go! Go Goudas Go!” chant of encouragement, even through the PA system.

After a long battle he finally arrived about 10 metres from the finish line only to perform some desperate moves. And with superhuman effort, each time he was about to dive down, instead of going a few centimetres ahead, he discovered on coming up that he was moving backwards instead of forward.

With the blindness in his eyes and no oxygen in his chest, Spyros thought he was going to die and completely lost his sense of direction.

At that point some of the finest swimmers, even from the competition, jumped in to the pool, surrounded him, and without physically touching him, guided him by indicating the direction in which he should go each time he emerged to the surface.

Needless to say, the last two metres were a “life and death situation” for Spyros although the crowd was louder than anyone can describe.

It was only when he finally touched the podium, that the statement from a recent film: “White Men Can’t Jump” proved to be untrue, because even the King was demonstrating the opposite by jumping up and down when Spyros finally finished the race! It was at this point that Spyros collapsed.

He was picked up from the water, taken out limp and naked, into an awaiting towel. He was a hero, and was triumphantly carried away on the shoulders of his teammates and his competitors alike, accompanied by a thunderous applause and screams of the

“Go! Go! Go! Go Goudas Go!” chant echoing in the background.

The writer believes that this is the “piece de resistance” and the most beautiful story.

It should be entitled:

***COURAGE
BEYOND RECOGNITION.***



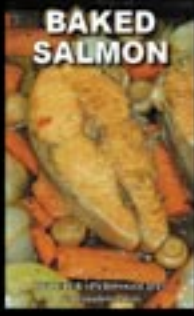
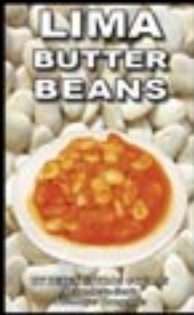
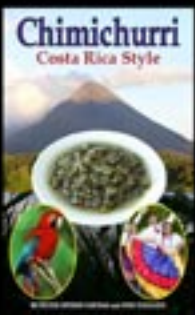
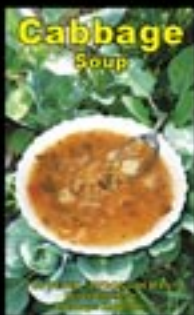
Publication Information

Spyros Peter Goudas, reserves the right, without prior notice, to revise this information.

No part of this publication, images, likenesses, slogans, names, trademarks, may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright holder.

All rights reserved. Copyright © 2009

If you have any comment about this booklet please sent it to cnn@cnnads.com



www.goudasfoods.com
www.flyermall.com

