

ELEANOR HOLM-WHALEN †

6 DECEMBER 1913 - 2 FEBRUARY 2004

At the age of 90 years the winner of the 100 metres backstroke event at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, Eleanor G. HOLM-WHALEN passed away in Miami, Florida.

The American swimmer won this event in the time of 1:19,4; nearly two seconds faster than the second finisher, the Australian Philomena Alecia MEALING.

In 1936, during the journey on the S.S. *Manhattan* of the United States Olympic team to the Games of the XIth Olympiad in Berlin 1936, the then 23 year old Eleanor HOLM had been invited to join a champagne-party in the first class, the only one of the 350 US team members. After this happening a US chaperon kept an eye on her. However, during the journey, Eleanor HOLM was suspended from the team after "*continued excessive drinking and insubordination, despite repeated warnings*" (American Olympic Committee Report 1936).

During the Olympic Games in Berlin, she worked as a journalist for the *International News Service*.

She later married to Mr. JARRET, divorced and remarried WHALEN.

In her later years, she worked for different aquatic shows and became the Eleanor in *Tarzan's Revenge* on the side of actor Glenn MORRIS.

She worked as an interior decorator in Miami, where she died of kidney dysfunction in her house, on February 2nd, 2004.

Thomas Zawadzki

