

# KATHERINE SWITZER



# INTRODUCTION

- She was born on April 7, 1947 in Alberg, Germany.
- She has the American nationality.
- Performs different jobs: Athlete, writer and TV commentator.
- She studied journalism at Syracuse University, New York.
- She was married to a football player named Tom Miller, who encouraged her to perform the act for which she is known.



## WHY DID HE PRETEND TO BE A MAN?

She was the first woman to run a marathon with a bib, at the 1967 Boston marathon. She had already tried the previous year but was rejected, as they discovered that she was a woman when registering, this time, so that his name would not attract attention, decided to register as KV Switzer, and not under his real name. As she run, one of the organizers, Jack Semple, realized it was a woman and chased her, at the same time, he yelled “Get out of my career an give me the number”.

The number that Katherine wore became one of the most representative numbers in the feminism and sports, 261.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

She was the winner of the New York marathon in 1974 and runner-up the following year, in 1975, just arrived behind Kim Merritt. Even do she finished second place, it was her best mark ever, in this discipline, with a time of 2 hours and 51 minutes.

Is the organizer of the "261 Women's Marathon of Mallorca", in 2014. The first Femenine in Spain in the history.



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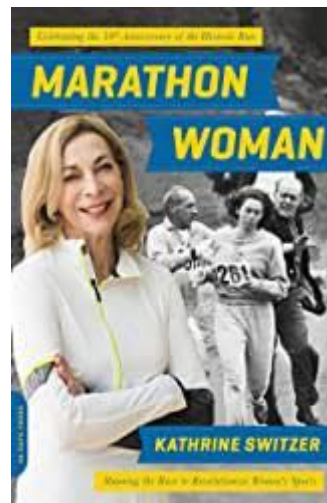
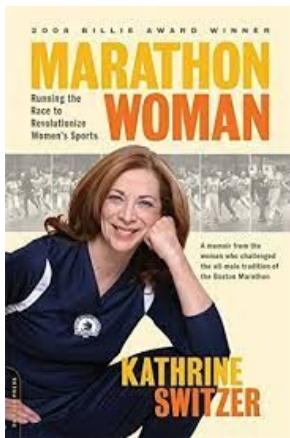
Katherine still a female icon today, because at 71 years old, she participated in the 2018 London marathon, a special commemoration for the centenary of women's voting rights, he got a sixth place, with a time of 4 hours and 45 minutes. Two years before, she also ran the Boston's and New York's Marathon showing nowadays she still fit at her 70's.



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At the present she's a coach, a writer and she has wrote books and articles about wome's sport activities, she work tiressly to help other athlete around the world.

Now, she is not married, and doesn't have children.



## CONCLUSION

In my opinion she committed a very brave act, in which at that time she was getting into trouble. But despite all the adversities, even she couldn't finish the marathon the first year, she caught it the second year. Her goal was to finish the race, but luckily she could finish in the second place overcoming all the pressure and problems, but she was firmly and commitment for her and for other women. She became an icon within sports and feminism, Katherine is an example to follow for both men and women.