James Whelan, a member of the Atlantic City Beach Patrol was instrumental in 1978 in re-establishing the 36K (22.5-mile) Around-the-Island Marathon Swim in Atlantic City. It was previously a major event on the professional circuit from 1953 to 1964 and the scene of great races by many IMSHOF Honorees. Later as Mayor of Atlantic City for three terms from 1989 he was a tremendous supporter of the event. James was also an accomplished marathon swimmer completing the Around-the-Island Marathon Swim in 1979 in 8 hours and 10 minutes and in 1978 the 32 km Traversée Internationale du lac St-Jean in 8 hours and 36 minutes.

Expanded Biography (Openwaterpedia)

Long Swims Database (Marathon Swimmers Federation) - No entry expected