

LYNN PETRONELLA, DEC 17, 1954, NY NY

Grew up in Manhasset, NY was first daughter of 5 children to Dr. Horace Petronella and nurse Rosemarie Petronella

Was cheerleading and head sports captain of the winning Blue Team at Manhasset High School

Went to Northwestern University, left, married, finished college at University of Colorado Boulder, with honors in Journalism became an avid distance running training with Olympic Gold medal Champion Frank Shorter in Boulder Colorado and was hired as the first amateur athlete ever and a female by PEPSICO of PURCHASE NEW YORK to put on the largest running program (over 300 races nationwide) in the world. RUN AMERICA RUN. Miss Petronella traversed and ran the country in all states getting hundreds of thousands of people into running and training for the 1980 Olympic Games hoping for a birth on a team. At that time women runners were excluded from competing at longer than 1500M and Miss Petronella was a 5,000 Meter and greater athlete. Having run the Boston Marathon in 1978 in 2:56 which would have been a gold medal winning time for a man in at least 3 Olympics in the past century and run the 5K in 16:40, 10K in 35:45 she along with other women runners were hoping for their shot at the Olympic berths but were not allowed to compete at those distances because they were female.

Jimmy Carter's Boycott of the 1980 Games spurred Miss Petronella on to work on the L'Eggs Mini marathon the largest distance race for women in the world with over 10,000 women running a 10K in New York's Central Park where she worked to get the attention of the media and Olympic Committee to include the woman's marathon into the 1984 Games in Los Angeles. This was accomplished and with Miss Petronella's coaching and advice she was able to coach Joan Benoit from Maine to win the first Women's Olympic Marathon in Los Angeles in 1984. (see Youtube clips Women's Olympic Marathon Lynn Petronella)

Miss Petronella coined her own word for WOMAN ATHLETES...ATHLETTE the feminine version, as she felt even though she was running in a "man's sport" she was every ounce female and went on to counter any claims that women COULD NOT RUN AN OLYMPIC MARATHON with the rebuttal "If women can be in a delivery room for 30 hours giving birth, then we can easily run and win a marathon....a marathon is just a warm up for what women have been doing for centuries and birth is MUCH HARDER....So where are the gold medals for that?"

To that end Miss Petronella has dedicated her life, message and mission in her book KNOW WHERE TO RUN AN AMERICAN ODYSSEY and her web tv portal [www.itsawomansworld.tv](http://www.itsawomansworld.tv). She has developed her own medals for mothers.

WORLDS GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT IS BIRTH (TM) and sells them to raise money for women and children in the USA.

Miss Petronella is also the author of the poem THE LADY IN THE NIGHT that is featured on the Statue of Liberty website in honor of the victims of 9/11 and those who have lost their lives to give Americans their freedom and especially for the people and families in Manhasset who lost loved ones.

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IT'S A WOMANS WORLD.TV DEDICATED TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY!!!!  
THE LADY IN THE NIGHT ®

2002

By Lynn Petronella

480-430-3485

for the victims of 9/11

[www.itsawomansworld.tv](http://www.itsawomansworld.tv)

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She stands all alone in the darkness of night  
Through rain, wind and snow a remarkable sight

On a river that separates city from nation  
A statuesque queen a European creation

A crown on her head with a torch gold and bright  
Giving strangers from each nation new hope and delight

She stands for the freedom , truth promise and more  
Of America the beautiful she's the opening door

The tattered and torn have all called on her name  
Traveled thousands of miles before her they came

Each with their vision and dream to fulfill  
Each with persistence and a God given will

She's watched as they came in day and in night  
In peace and in war time what a magnificent sight!

She's protected the shores of each native and more  
Given hope to the stranger, and help to the poor.

She's been the mother, the queen the woman of all  
Standing stately and beautiful, her watch is God's call.

It' a woman you see God has put in this place

To stamp out despair... with love and hope to replace

A woman a mother sent to protect each and everyone  
The young and the old , a song of freedom to be sung  
""""Bold text""""Bold text""""

America the beautiful the strong and the brave  
Despite guns, bombs, and destruction, our lives she must save.

A sister, a mother, grandmother and more  
The person to keep us safe inside freedom's door

She stands like the lioness in front of her cave  
Protecting her cubs, their lives she must save

With the years and upheavals of presidents and kings  
She holds to our dreams and let's freedom ring

It rings louder and louder with each blow we take  
With each bomb that bursts each life that's at stake

With out saying a word she let's the world know  
We are Americans the free the proud and the bold

Despite the fact we are mortal man  
She gives us God's grace to fight demons again and again.

She holds her head high with dignity and grace  
Never sleeps on her watch of this magnificent place.

But she worries as all good mothers do  
That we have not done our part to keep the peace too.

She sees the sins of the hearts of women and men  
And lights that torch in the night to guide us again

She wants us to return to a country of peace  
Of unity and love, brotherly strife must cease

She wants to remind us that freedom has a cost  
That we must be united together or all will be lost

So we must cling to the hem of her robe in this life  
As she keeps our way lit through the darkest of night

For She will not let us lose sight of what was meant to be....  
That's why she's been called...Lady Liberty!END

