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[Birthday Wishes From Diana's Long-Time Friends](#)



As you probably already know, this Sunday Aug. 22 will mark the day 31 years ago when Diana Nyad, on her birthday, walked up onto the beach having accomplished the farthest open-water swim in history, 102.5 miles shore to shore from Bimini in the Bahamas to Florida.

No man or woman swam that far before or since—and who else would even attempt it without a shark cage!

Diana succeeded in what she set out to do, which was to swim the farthest. Now she's gotten in shape for success again at a comparable distance.

And in the process, I might add, she has inspired quite a few of us to do whatever it takes to feel better about ourselves—whether it's letting our aspirations fly higher in the sky or and walking with a lighter step on this earth (for example, in 8 weeks, I've lost 16 pounds; my partner has lost 25).

I'm just saying, in perspective—pinnacle or practical—it's all good, right? And it's Diana's birthday on Sunday. So if somebody wants to pick a time of day or night, we can each translate it to our own time zone and stand up and sing Happy Birthday to Diana at the top of our lungs all at the same time. Anybody with me? Jen, can we invite everybody in the World (Wide Web...)?

Margie, Jon, Deborah—you were all on that 1979 record-setting swim while I was not—do you remember what time she walked onto the shore? Or set forth? Anybody have a good time to offer? (Now that last phrase can be taken soooo many ways...)

Thanks,

Candace

Dear Diana,

You continue to amaze—in and out of the water!

I have never been so anxious and eager to check emails—waiting and hoping and waiting and hoping for that final alert letting us all know it's a go.

In the meantime, it's wonderful to feel this great sense of community about something that matters—as someone who intentionally doesn't Facebook or Twitter, this is as good as it gets and I hope at some point we can all be together in real as well as cyber space to celebrate Diana.

Diana Nyad

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IN...what time?

Heidi H

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OK, i'm doing my vocal warm ups NOW before I get on a plane to LA tomorrow morning. i am so moved just thinking about everything — trials, tribulations, and triumphs — with Diana...was there ever a more heartfelt time you had wanted to sing anyone a "Happy Birthday" tribute than now? To really honor how much someone has impacted your

life or your world within the years they have been here...?

i'm proud to lead the tune from PST, and have already wrangled the other members of the house in which I'm staying ...I will await a proposed time from the 1979 crew.

xoAimee

I'm in.....Cancun

Kathy L

I will sing anytime:)

-MN

Warming up in NYC!! Thanks for the note, Candace. Diana inspired my health kick this year, too. Never felt better!

Sharon

I have an idea. Several of our establishments in town have web cams (ie. Sloppy Joe's, captain Tony's, hogsbreath, etc.) that will allow everyone to see Diana on her birthday. People can watch her while they sing to her. Lol. Just an idea.

Chris

Fantastic idea Candace! I wish there were a way to video skype everyone in so we can record it. I can't wrap my brain around how to do that with this many people. Anyone? Hopefully I will be able to join. I am flying all day to key west and landing 6:30 pm est in order to arrive for diana's bday evening.

Tim

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