

Melissa Militano Warkmeister, a three-time U.S. pairs champion and 1972 Olympian, passed away in Las Vegas on Tuesday, July 16. She was 69.



The skating world lost Melissa Militano to a brief battle with lymphoma. Melissa was a singles and pair champion who was truly a pioneer of U.S. Figure Skating. Melissa was one of the first female skaters in the world to consistently land triple jumps and did so to win the bronze in junior ladies in 1970 and the junior title the next year at the

1971 U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Known for her steadiness and consistency, Militano earned her first U.S. pairs title with brother, Mark, in 1973, and won two more with Johnny Johns in 1974 and 1975. She and her brother placed seventh at the 1972 Games in Sapporo, Japan. She competed at seven consecutive World Championships (1969-1975).

Her coaches included Peter Dunfield and Ron Ludington. After retiring from competitive skating in 1975, Militano performed in the **Ice Capades** for four years.

She and husband Randy Warkmeister have one daughter, Kelly, and two grandsons.

A date for a celebration of life will be announced in the near future.