

## **Ze'ev Friedman**

**June 10, 1944, Prokopyevsk, formerly Soviet Union – September 6, 1972, Fürstenfeldbruck**

Ze'ev Friedman was born in the Soviet Union, where his parents had gone to escape the Nazis. The family went to Bielawa, Poland in 1957 with the aim of emigrating to Israel. For a number of years, Bielawa served as an important transit point for Jews before their emigration. The Friedmans finally managed to leave Poland in 1960.

Friedman was an all-around athletic. In Israel he successfully specialized in weightlifting and studied at the *Wingate* sports center. He participated in international competitions and worked as a sports teacher.

His career was to culminate at the Olympic Games in Munich.

Ze'ev Friedman died of his gunshot wounds on the airfield in Fürstenfeldbruck.

**2** Ze'ev Friedman and his sister Nina, Prokopyevsk, formerly Soviet Union, ca. 1950

**3** Ze'ev Friedman (center) and Yossef Romano (right) at the Asian Weightlifting Championship, Manila, Philippines, 1971

**1** Ze'ev Friedman, Israel, ca. 1964

**4** Postcard from Ze'ev Friedman to his parents, Munich, August 26, 1972. The family did not receive the card until after Friedman's death.

"See you soon at home."