

## **Eliezer Halfin**

**June 18, 1948, Riga, formerly Soviet Union – September 6, 1972,  
Fürstenfeldbruck**

Eliezer Halfin and his sister grew up in Soviet Riga, the children of Holocaust survivors. Halfin was already successful as a freestyle wrestler when he was a teenager. For years the family made every effort to follow their relatives to Israel. Owing to the restrictive exit regulations, they were not able to emigrate until 1969. In Israel, Halfin managed to complete the Hebrew course required of all immigrants at a kibbutz near the national *Wingate* sports center. This enabled him to continue training for his great aim – participation in the Olympics.

In Munich he competed in his first wrestling match on August 27.

Eliezer Halfin was shot to death on the Fürstenfeldbruck airfield on the night of September 5.

**3** Eliezer Halfin (center) at his sister Rima's wedding, Ramat Gan, Israel, March 7, 1971

**2** Eliezer Halfin and his coach Moshe (Muni) Weinberg at the Olympic Games, Munich, August 1972

**1** Eliezer Halfin and his sister Rima, Riga, formerly Soviet Union, ca. 1964

**4** Eliezer Halfin's schedule in preparation for the Olympic Games in Munich, Israel, 1972

"Ten hours of sleep a night"