Andrei Spitzer was born in Romania, the son of Holocaust survivors. His father died when he was eleven. Eight years later, in 1964, he and his mother emigrated to Israel.

Spitzer had been an enthusiastic fencer since his early adolescence. In Israel, he hitchhiked around the country to get young people interested in his discipline. In 1968, the Israeli fencing association sent him to a Dutch sports academy. There he met his future wife Anuku. The couple's daughter was born on June 22, 1972. Two months later, Spitzer went to Munich to coach the fencers: Yehudi Weinstain and Dan Alon for the Olympic Games. The two athletes escaped the terrorist attack. Andrei Spitzer was shot to death by the terrorists in Fürstenfeldbruck.