

**IN MEMORIAM:
ALEKSANDR VLADIMIROVICH IVANITSKY
October 8, 1937 – July 22, 2020**

Ramazan Savranbaşı



MY DEAR FRIEND ALEXANDR,

The pride of the Russians, the great champion ALEXANDER IVANITSKY, was an exemplary athlete in world wrestling, that is, a ROLE MODEL. A state ceremony was held in Moscow yesterday in connection with his death.

ALEXANDER IVANITSKY had recently completed his book "BROKEN EARS", in which he talks about his life and the period over the past 4-5 years. A week before his death, he called me on video and excitedly informed me that his book is now being published. His happiness was evident in his expression. This time, his usual smiling face was different. It was obvious from his manner that he had calmed down after reading the book. He had books that he had written before. However, this book became his farewell book. He said goodbye to his friends, handing over his last book with his hands. His family will send me a book in the coming days. I am also very curious about the content of the book. The title of the book looks so good in a wrestling book. He told me the story of why he named this book "BROKEN EARS." Now I want to share with you.

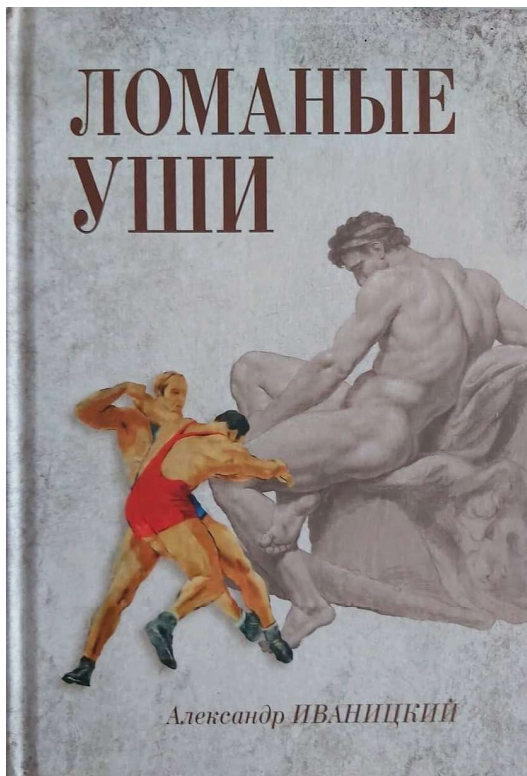
ALEXANDER IVANITSKY (heavyweight) took part in the world championships four times (1962, 1963, 1965 and 1966) and once in the Olympic Games (1964, Tokyo). He wins gold in all these championships. Moreover, he does not give a single point to any opponent!

In 1967 this championship is enough for me and says goodbye to active sports. ALEXANDER graduated from the university in journalism and television. He made an academic career at the same university and began writing books read by more than 3 million people. This situation brings him closer to his goal. He becomes the director of a Soviet-era sports channel, presenter, commentator, programmer and writer for various magazines. He never breaks with his beloved wrestling. He even follows numerous European and world Olympic organizations as a journalist and broadcaster. He is the top press representative at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

ALEXANDR IVANITSKY gave up active sports, but until his last breath he followed a healthy lifestyle for himself. He was always cheerful and wiry. He constantly played sports according to his age.

One day, 10 years after Alexander gave up wrestling, he went on a regular jog in the forest. After a while, he goes to the fountain and washes himself to cool off. When he straightens his head, he meets the eyes with a young man of 24-25 years old, weighing about 120 kilograms, and suddenly his eyes fall into each other's broken ears. Alexander says to this tall, slender young, athletic youth that you have to be a wrestler. The athlete says yes by expanding the ribcage slightly and adding; I am engaged in wrestling. I am a Master of Sports of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics). The young wrestler asks curiously, who are you?

ALEXANDR feels that the young wrestler does not know him, and says to the athlete: "I am 4-time world and Olympic champion ALEXANDER IVANITSKY." The young wrestler does not seem to care about ALEXANDER IVANITSKY, who is over 40, and he says that I cannot remember you. They both say hello and set off in the opposite directions.



ALEXANDR is a little sad on the way home. He criticizes himself and unfortunately says, "We knew that because of our broken ears we were wrestlers, but we didn't know who we were." He makes a promise to himself, saying that the mistake or lack of knowledge, is not in youth, but in us. On the same day, he decides to write a book that will introduce each other to "BROKEN EARS" by writing of the heroes of wrestlers and saying that we must introduce them to the new generation.

ALEXANDR was a lover of nature. The village of Elniki of the Ruzsky District, 125 km from Moscow, where he spent a lot of his life, is located among the forests. The family hosted us here for 5 days on August 15, 2018. He died of a heart attack 5 days ago in the Wayne River, which he entered for bathing, passing through the woods where he used to walk in the woods. My brother Adem Bereket reported the hard news.

ALEXANDR IVANITSKY, looking and examining the book "BROKEN EARS", which he wrote with great difficulty and scrupulousness, was next to his coffin when he said goodbye to life and was distributed there to his beloved.

Have plenty of peace, my dear friend, my dear friend. Sleep in the light, man as man, man as man. Great champion. Wrestling philosopher.

RAMAZAN SAVRANBAŞI

July 30, 2020