

N. Read the news report and answer the questions below.

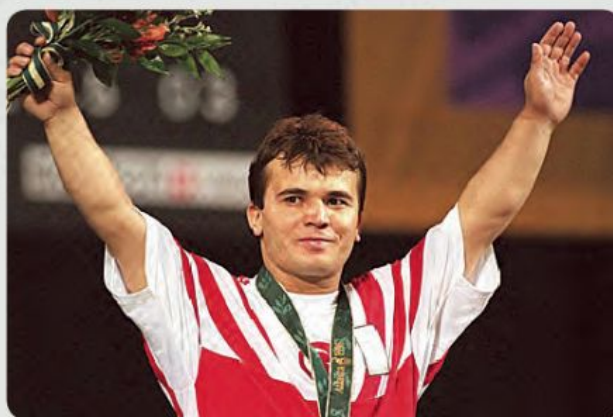
1. Who is the news report about?
2. What sport was this person interested in?

Date: 19 November 2017

## OUR LEGENDARY SPORTSMAN HAS PASSED AWAY. TURKEY IS CRYING FOR HIM.

Naim Süleymanoğlu is a national hero for millions of Turkish people. He's also known as *Pocket Hercules*. He's been ill for a long time. Unfortunately, doctors couldn't save his life. He **passed away** on 18 November 2017 at the age of 50.

He was a national sportsman in Turkey. He was a great weightlifter. He dominated the sport in the mid-1980s and 1990s. He was 1 m 50 cm tall, and he had 60 kilos so he **competed** in the lighter body-weight categories.



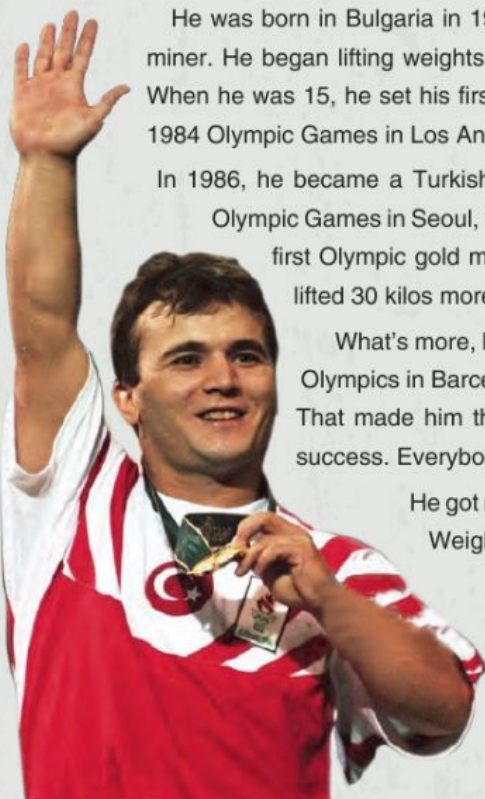
He was born in Bulgaria in 1967. He was born to a Turkish family. His father was a miner. He began lifting weights at the age of 10. He won championships in his teens. When he was 15, he set his first world record. However, he couldn't **participate** in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles **due to** Bulgaria's boycott.

In 1986, he became a Turkish citizen, and then he represented Turkey at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea. He won a gold medal there. It was Turkey's first Olympic gold medal in weightlifting. He set world records in Seoul. He lifted 30 kilos more than his nearest **rival**. That was unbelievable.

What's more, Naim Süleymanoğlu won a gold medal again at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain and the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, the USA. That made him the sport's first three-time gold medalist. It was a great success. Everybody in Turkey was proud of him.

He got retired in 1997. He became a member of the International Weightlifting Federation in 2000 and 2004.

Turkish people will never forget *Pocket Hercules*. He'll always be our national hero.



### Theme 9: Modern Heroes and Heroines

**O.** Read the news report again and complete the chart below.

Date	Event
1967	<i>Naim Süleymanoğlu was born.</i>
1986	
1988	
1992	
1996	
1997	
2000	
2017	

**P.** Work in pairs. Look at the chart again and take turns to make sentences as in the example.  
*1967 is the year when Naim Süleymanoğlu was born.*

**Q.** Find the words (1-5) in the text and guess the meaning from the context. Then match them with the definitions (a-e).

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. pass away (.....)   | a. to take part in an activity             |
| 2. compete (.....)     | b. a person in the same competition as you |
| 3. participate (.....) | c. because of                              |
| 4. due to (.....)      | d. to die                                  |
| 5. rival (.....)       | e. to join a competition                   |

**R.** Use the words above to complete these sentences.

- Many traffic accidents occurred yesterday ..... the terrible weather conditions.
- Unfortunately, her grandmother couldn't get over cancer so she .....
- Mandy is very shy. She never ..... in the games that other children play.
- It seems to me that Rachel is much better than her nearest ..... Therefore, I'm sure she'll be the champion.
- Arnold ..... in many international competitions when he was younger.

**S.** Read the text again. What does the author wish to do? Choose all the correct answers.

- To inform readers about Naim Süleymanoğlu's death.
- To present information about Naim Süleymanoğlu's achievements.
- To show readers why Naim Süleymanoğlu was a national hero in Turkey.
- To tell readers the details of Naim Süleymanoğlu's health problems.
- To present detailed information about Naim Süleymanoğlu's private life.

**T.** Work in pairs. Take turns to talk about Naim Süleymanoğlu's achievements.