

In 1971 they divorced. In the late nineties, she moved into a home for the elder in The Hague, where she spent the remaining years of her life!

*Tony Bijkerk*

**Gustav Adolf Lantschner (GER)**, \*12 August 1910 in Innsbruck/AUT; †19 March 2011 in Krailling; was with his age of over 100 years the oldest living winner of an Olympic medal. As second in the Alpine Combination in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 1936, "Guzzi", as he was named, was also the last living German who had won an Olympic medal before the Second World War. Born in Austria, he won the world championship in downhill for his home country in 1932 in Cortina d'Ampezzo. He stems from a family in Tirol very enthusiastic for skiing. His oldest sister, Inge Wersin-Lantschner (1905-1997), was a three times world champion in 1933. His second oldest sister, Hadwig Pfeifer-Lantschner (1906-2002), won silver at the world championships in 1935 and became fifth in the combination at the Olympic Winter Games in 1936. Also his two brothers, Otto (1908-1989) and Gerhard (1912-1943) belonged to the best skiers. Both of them were student world champion. And not to forget: cousin Hellmuth (1909-1993), who was world champion in the downhill in 1939.

Like his siblings, the only 1.60 meters high "Guzzi" belonged from the start to the "Red Devils", as the members from the Skiing club in Innsbruck because of their red sweaters were named. From 1929 onwards, he worked as actor, and before all as ski-acrobat in Arnold Fanck's mountain movies ("Der weiße Rausch" and "Abenteuer im Engadin").

At a young age, Lantschner joined the National Socialists. In 1931 he became a member of the Austrian NSDAP, which was banned in 1933. After the failed try to destabilize Austria by the followers from Hitler,

he and his brothers escaped to Germany in 1934, where he attended the Movie-academy in Berlin. In January 1936, he received the German nationality – just in time to take part for Germany in the Olympic Winter Games. Contrary, Austria was not presented in the Alpine skiing, because its best men were ski-teachers, who were "Professionals" according to the IOC regulations.

His debut as a camera-man made Lantschner in the NS-propaganda movies about the Reichsparteitag (NS party days) from 1934 and 1935. Afterwards, movie-director Leni Riefenstahl also used him for the Olympic film about the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936, where he worked as one of the three chief-cameramen. During the Second World War, he was a war-reporter in the rank of a Sergeant-Major in the SS.

After the end of the war, Lantschner escaped via South Tyrol to Argentina, where he opened a ski-school and showed films about nature. In 1952, he returned to Munich. He stayed bound to the sport of skiing during his whole life. As a 99-years old man, one could see him for the last time in the Austrian documentary "Ski Heil – Die zwei Bretter, die die Welt bedeuten".

*Volker Kluge*

**Vasili Alekseyev (URS)**, \*7 January 1942 in Pokrovo-Shishenko; †25 November 2011 in Munich; relieved his compatriot Leonid Zhabotinsky as "strongest man in the world". The Russian mountain engineer from Shakhty was world champion in heavyweight, or superheavyweight eight times and set 80 world records. Alekseyev was twice Olympic champion in weightlifting: in 1972 in Munich and in 1976 in Montréal with a lead of 35 kg before the second placed. In 1980 in Moscow, when his weight was 161.75 kg, he tried a comeback after two years of pause in competitions. However, he

already failed in the starting event of snatch. In 1992, he showed also to be a successful national trainer, when his pupils won ten Olympic medals, from which five were gold ones. In 2011, he returned to Munich, the place of his first Olympic triumph – however this time for a heart operation, which he did not survive. (VK)

**Bohumil Golián (TCH)**, \*25 March 1931 in Moštenica, Slovakia; †11 January 2012 in Bratislava. He was a great Slovakian volleyball-legend. From 1946 to 1950 he studied at the vocational school of textile in the city of Ružomberok. In spite of his performance he wasn't included to the army sports club UDA. In autumn 1954, he returned to Bratislava and he started to play for club ČH Bratislava. Next year (1955) he moved to club Slávia, where he was competing for highest positions in both national and international level. In 1959 Slávia came second in the national championship tournament. In 1955, Golián became a key member of the Czechoslovak national team. Following year the national team, he was part of, has won world championship in Paris, first in history of Czechoslovak volleyball. The second title came in 1965 in Prague. Golián was the captain of the national team from 1965 till 1968. Among those many other successes it is necessary to mention silver medals from WC in Rio de Janeiro (1960) and Moscow (1962), gold medals from EC in Prague (1958) and silver from Istanbul (1957). He won the Olympic silver medal in Tokio (1964). Four years later, in 1968, he was a Czechoslovak colour-bearer and with his team won a bronze medal. Mexico was also a farewell with national team, where he played in 350 games. For two years he was a playing coach in Italian team in Bari. Since 1970 he was an assistant at the Faculty of Sport and Physical Education of Comenius University in Bratislava.

