

Naim Süleymanoğlu is a Turkish Olympic weightlifter. He was a seven-time World Weightlifting champion and a three-time Olympic gold medalist and set multiple world records. He was one of the greatest Olympic weightlifters ever. At the 1988 Summer Olympics, he set multiple world records in the snatch, clean and jerk, and total. Süleymanoğlu is the first and only weightlifter to have snatched 2.5 times his body weight and also is the second of only seven lifters to date to clean and jerk three times his body weight. He is the only weightlifter to date to clean and jerk 10 kilos more than triple his bodyweight.

the 1980s, Bulgaria's government implemented a program called the Revival Process which required ethnic minorities to adopt Slavic names and barred their languages. As a result, Süleymanoğlu was forced to change his name to Naum Shalamanov (Наум Шаламанов) in 1985. He decided to leave Bulgaria after these experiences.

While on a trip to the World Cup Final in Melbourne in 1986, Süleymanoğlu escaped his handlers, and after several days in hiding, he defected at the Turkish Embassy in Canberra. When Embassy officials report the situation to Turgut Özal, The Prime Minister ordered him to be brought at once. He landed in Istanbul. After making his way to Istanbul, he changed his name back to Süleymanoğlu.

He suffered from cirrhosis of the liver for a long time. In 2009, he was in hospital for nearly three months.

On 25 September 2017, he was admitted to a hospital due to liver failure. On 6 October, a liver transplantation was made when a liver donor was found. On 11 November, he had surgery due to a hemorrhage in the brain and a subsequent edema. He died on 18 November 2017. He was interred at the Edirnekapı Martyr's Cemetery in Istanbul.

On 22th november of 2019, a film about him was in the cinemas.

