

PRESENTATION: MY FAVORITE SPORTSMAN

Group 453

Yaroslav Ishchuk

Biography



Vitali Klitschko (born 19 July 1971) and Wladimir Klitschko (born 25 March 1976), collectively known as the **Klitschko brothers** are Ukrainian heavyweight boxers. The older brother Vitali retired from boxing in 2013 and became a politician in his native Ukraine. After the retirement of boxing legend Lennox Lewis, the Klitschko brothers held all heavyweight boxing world titles. During their peak years from 2004 until 2015, the Klitschko brothers were considered the most dominant heavyweight champions of their era, and amongst the most successful champions in heavyweight boxing history.

Family

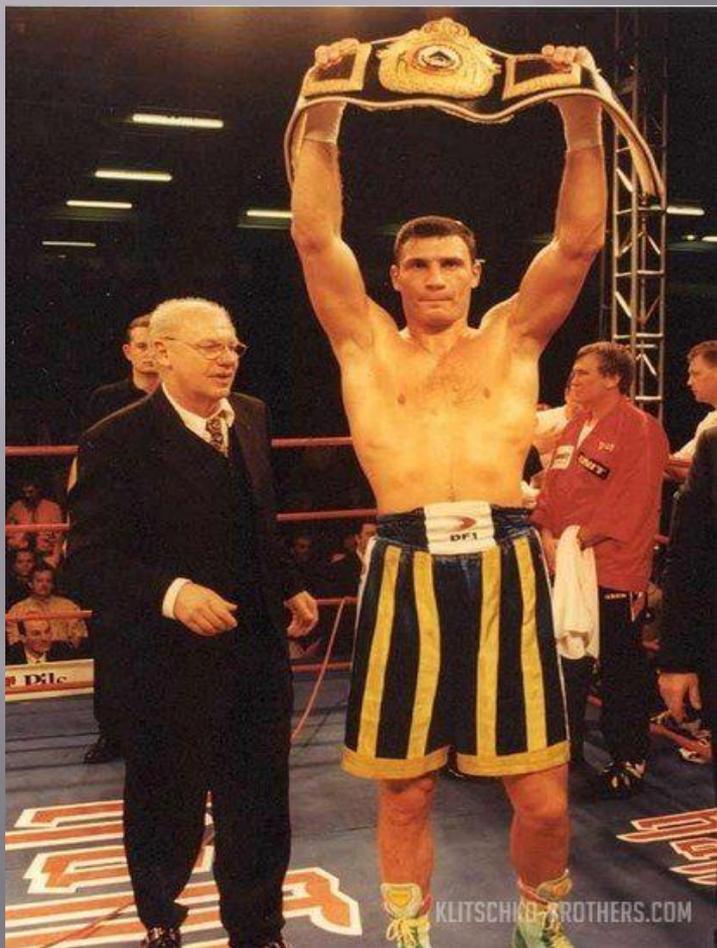


Father - Vladimir Klitschko Rodionovich - military attache of the Embassy of Ukraine in Germany and NATO.



Mother - primary school teacher Nadia Ulyanivna Klitschko.

Achievement



1999-2003: First Title Belts & Defenses

In June 1999, Vitali Klitschko won the WBO Heavyweight title from Herbie Hide via second round knockout. He successfully defended the title twice before losing it to Chris Byrd. Six months later, younger brother Wladimir dethroned Byrd via lopsided points decision. He registered five successful title defenses, all by TKO until suffering an upset TKO loss to Corrie Sanders in March 2003. Vitaly Klitschko lost his fight with Lennox Lewis in his attempt to win the WBC, IBO, The Ring and Lineal Heavyweight Championships.



2004-2006: Second Title Reigns & Vitali's Retirement

Klitschko faced South African Corrie Sanders on 24 April 2004 for the WBC heavyweight championship and The Ring belts that had been vacated by Lewis. Vitali won by 8th round stoppage, he defended his titles just once, stopping Danny Williams in the 8th round before retiring in late 2005 due to injuries. Wladimir bounced back from a stoppage loss in a prior vacant title attempt, to dethrone Byrd for a second time for his IBF title in April 2006, this time by stoppage in the 7th round.



2008-2012: Heavyweight Title Co-Dominance

After a series of injuries, Vitali had a career break of almost four years. In his comeback fight in Berlin on October 11, 2008 he defeated Samuel Peter to regain the title of WBC world heavyweight champion. At that time Wladimir was already world heavyweight champion with the WBO, IBF and IBO. That was the first time in history with two brothers world champions at the same time. On July 2, 2011, Wladimir won the WBA Title, which means that the Klitschko brothers held all of the World Heavyweight Titles simultaneously for 2 years, 5 months & 13 days. Vitali retained the WBC Heavyweight Championship until 15 December 2013, relinquishing his belt in pursuit of his political aspirations in his native Ukraine.



The End