



Boris Mordkovic Bitman

May 7, 1938 - October 27, 2025

Boris Mordkovic Bitman passed away in Texas on October 27, 2025, at the age of 87.

He was born on May 17, 1938, in Ukraine. In 1993, Boris and his wife of fifty years, Bella Bitman, immigrated to the United States and settled in Baltimore, Maryland. They later relocated to Texas.

Boris is survived by his wife Bella, his sons Dan Bitman and wife Anne-Marie, and Glen Bitman and wife Jufy. He is also survived by his grandsons Logan and Duncan.

A memorial service was held on October 29, 2025, in Austin, Texas, to celebrate his life.

Boris loved animals and shared a special bond with his cat, Muffin; his dog, Reese; and his two German Shepherd "granddogs," Chase and Loki. All were rescues.

Donations in his memory may be made to Austin German Shepherd Rescue at www.austingermanshepherdrescue.org.

May his memory be for a blessing - זיכרונו לברכה (zikhrono livrakha).

Tribute Wall

“ We are here today to honor and remember Boris Bitman... a quiet, strong, and deeply honorable man who lived his life with love, dignity, and purpose.

To me, Boris had such a unique and unforgettable presence. Since he didn't speak English and I didn't speak Russian, we learned to communicate in our own way over the years. It might have been a tilt of the head, a shrug of the shoulders, a wave of the hand, or one of his signature grunts... but somehow, we always managed to understand each other. Those small gestures said so much, and they became a language of their own between us.

On Saturday, when we learned the true nature of his illness and how far it had progressed, we realized just how strong he had been. He must have been in so much pain, yet he never showed it. That was Boris... quiet, resilient, and steady. He faced everything with grace and dignity, never wanting to burden anyone or draw attention to himself.

Ira shared a story that really captures Boris's kind heart. Every time they went out walking, Boris would smile and greet everyone they passed. People would often say how nice and friendly he was... and it was true. He had a warmth that drew people in. He also had that same gentle connection with animals. Every dog or cat they encountered seemed to love him immediately... coming up to nuzzle or lick his hand. And Boris, in turn, was always so thankful and appreciative of them. That quiet kindness, that respect for life in all forms, was simply who he was.

Boris was also deeply honest... it was simply part of his nature. If something didn't feel right, you could see it right away in his face or hear it in his tone. He always wanted things to be fair and true. Whether it was during a walk, in a conversation, or even in a simple game, Boris never lied, never pretended. What you saw with him was real. He lived with honesty, kindness, and a heart that never wavered.

In his final moments, Boris shared his wishes with us, and we have done our best to honor them. He was a simple man who valued peace and dignity, and I believe we have respected his wishes with love, compassion, and grace.

When the doctors spoke with Boris and shared what they might be able to do to buy him just a little more time, I think he already knew what his choice would be. He understood the realities, and he knew what those treatments might mean for his quality of life... and for Bella. He was an honorable man, and I think in that moment, he decided it was his time. He wanted it to be swift, peaceful, and dignified.

In doing so, he honored his 50 years of marriage with Bella in the most selfless way possible... by thinking of her even as he faced his own final days. He remained strong and steadfast, just as he had been throughout his life.

Bella shared with me a story about how they first met. Her father had been asking around to see if anyone knew of a nice young man, and one day, there was a knock on her door... and there stood Boris. In the beginning, Bella said she didn't like him very much... but over time, he grew on her. And I have to say, that might just be a Bitman family tradition. I can't speak for my sister-in-law Jufy, but I think Dan and I would both agree that we probably didn't like each other all that much in the beginning either... and yet here we are, twenty years later, hoping to carry on a legacy of fifty years as well.

Some might have called Boris stubborn, but for Boris, it was simply who he was. That quiet determination... that resolve to do what he felt was right... defined him. And it was that same spirit that carried him through his life, his marriage, and, ultimately, his final moments with grace.

Dan shared that it can be hard to pull out just one memory with his father, but there are a few that stand out in his mind. One of his fondest memories goes back to when he was about eleven or twelve years old. The family took a river cruise and stopped somewhere along the way where there was a soccer field. Dan remembers joining his dad to play soccer against other people... just the two of them on the same team. It was such a simple moment, but it stayed with him as a very special memory.

He also remembers that when he was growing up, his father loved collecting books. Back then, even buying books was difficult, but Boris always found a way. Because of that, Dan had the chance to read a lot of fiction and discover worlds beyond his own... something that left a lasting impression on him.

Glen shared how blessed he feels to have had such a good father. He said he misses playing cards with him and talking about soccer... the games, the players, the excitement they shared. He said he had a very good life with his dad, that Boris raised him well, and that he loves him very much.

And from Logan and Duncan... while they're too shy to get up and speak today, they wanted me to share their favorite memories of playing cards and chess with their Poopa. They loved those games with him, even when he made up the rules as he went along. It was their special time together... full of laughter, teasing, and connection. To them, he wasn't just their grandfather... he was their Poopa, and an incredible one at that. The kind of grandfather who didn't need words to show his love... just time, patience, and that familiar grin that said everything.

And from my heart, I want to say thank you to Boris. Thank you for making the courageous decision to immigrate from Ukraine to Baltimore when Dan was seventeen. Without that decision, I would never have had the opportunity to meet Dan, and together we would not have our two wonderful boys, Logan and Duncan. They are proud first-generation Ukrainian-Americans who will carry on the Bitman name and Boris's legacy with love and honor.

And we also want to thank Boris's oldest brother, Aaron. He was the one who figured out how to make that journey possible — the one who first found a path to the United States and eventually brought Boris and the family here. Because of Aaron's determination, courage, and love for his family, generations that followed were able to build new lives, new opportunities, and a lasting legacy. For that, we are deeply grateful.

As we close today, I want to take a moment to speak to you, Bella. You are the matriarch of this family... the queen of this family... and you will not need to want or go without anything. Your boys, your daughters-in-law, and your entire family will take care of you. You never need to apologize or say you're sorry to anyone for anything. You are the heart of this family, and you will continue to guide us with the same love and strength that you and Boris built together.

Anne-Marie, Dan, Logan & Duncan - October 30, 2025 at 04:49 PM