

# REMEMBERING C. PARAMALINGAM

## A GEM OF A GUY

**A**s a schoolboy, I often heard stories of C Paramalingam. It always touched on his skills as a centre forward for Malaysia — particularly his ferocity in the “D” and his ability to deflect crosses or passes driven to him while on the run past the goalkeeper.

I patterned my play on his style which helped me get selected into the 1972 Selangor Under-23 side coached by Mohamed Sidek.

Years later, as a sports reporter for the Star and the New Straits Times, I finally met Param who was coaching the national team.

He was super nice, knowledgeable and

transparent about his plans and goals for his team.

If he was under any pressure, he never showed it and always maintained a pleasant relationship with me.

He could talk for hours on matters pertaining to hockey and there were many gems of wisdom to be picked up from these conversations with him.

A true character and a Malaysian hockey legend.

**PETER MARTINEZ** (SPORTSWRITER)

