

Sylvia (standing),
Eddy Choong, Tan
Yee Khan & Tan Aik
Huang (left to right).



MEMORIES LIVE FOREVER

SYLVIA NG

(COMMONWEALTH GAMES SINGLES GOLD)

YEE Khan was a true champ. Big, tall, kind hearted and one with a mind of his own. He was loud, spoke freely and some found him offensive. That was Yee Khan who said it straight.

I am really glad I had the opportunity to be with him and the rest of the teammates when we were in training camps.

I was the 'baby' in the training camp and he would share his experiences with me.

During our free time he would talk about his smashing ability.

He described how his rackets broke due to his smashes and shuttles destroyed.

One incident I still remember like it was only yesterday. This was during the 1969 Rangoon Seap Games.

We were out running, away from our living quarters, before the start of the Games.

Yee Khan was doing the backward jog. He tripped and fell, hitting the back of his head. He blacked out and we were unable to revive him.

We were in a panicky state as we were away from getting any help. Luckily we saw a truck

and waved it to stop.

What a struggle we had carrying the 'giant' of a man onto the truck. Thanks to the truck driver, Yee Khan received medical attention for a concussion.

Yee Khan has this special feeling for all the badminton players he knows. For his 70th birthday, he invited even the remaining players from the 1949 Thomas Cup team. I remember meeting Ong Poh Lim. Even Mohd Khir Johari, the then badminton president was there.

It was indeed a nostalgic occasion, meeting all those former greats at Yee Khan's Pangkor Seaview Resort.

Whenever he brought us together to Pangkor, we found him to be a great host... entertaining us with his cooking, singing and reminiscing about the "glory days".

Those were the unforgettable memories I'll treasure forever. He was just not a reputable player, but also a good and sincere friend.