



BY ANNE WONG HOLLOWAY
(SINGAPORE)

Unassuming Harvey

I met Harvey Yap and Eric Ooi at Batu Tiga in 1970, the very first time I raced there.

They both drove Volvos and I was loaned a Mini Cooper 999 cc by John Turner to compete in the Novices Race.

I didn't know anyone then, nor much about cars; not that I know more now over half a century later!

Well what I recall is enjoying myself racing and then finding myself finishing the event in one piece, behind the two Volvos.

This was the first race I had completed, ever! So that was a great thrill.

Then Eric, ever the ebullient one, came up to talk to me and introduced Harvey and their

friends.

That was the start of a long friendship. I had two friends who were my big brothers on and off the race tracks.

We kept in touch sporadically, in more recent years in Singapore when Eric visited his sister, Irene.

And Harvey when he found his way to Singapore. We would meet up at the Yacht Club which was very convenient for him.

Harvey was genuinely a wonderful guy, soft spoken and unassuming.

And he drove the same way — quietly but effectively and, most of all, fast and sparing of his car.

When Norma, a close friend of Harvey called to tell me the sad

news, I just didn't know what to say.

But now after some days have passed, I feel a deep loss for a good friend.

Harvey's passing was without warning, a total shock.

Eric's was sad but was not unexpected because he had been ill for a some time.

Both have brought home how frail and fleeting our lives can be.

Our time is passing, your time might just be starting — go and enjoy it with gusto and try to be as good at what you do best.