

ADLY, I never knew Veluwhen he was reporting sports — my loss. But then I was honoured to have known him after being introduced by George — my gain.

He was then very much into sports marketing. I would meet him often while covering sports events, which he had organised, so to speak.

He was quiet but never aloof. He was humble despite his vast knowledge and was helpful to me, a reporter trying to break into the scene., not knowing the who's who in sports.

I can't say enough about Velu, which has not been said already by friends. But I have to say this.

I will never forget his smile. Sincere. And warm.

Which brings me to a song by Nat King Cole. Titled, yes, "Smile".

"Smile though your heart is aching Smile even though it's breaking

When there are clouds in the sky, you'll get by If you smile through your fear and sorrow
Smile, and maybe tomorrow You'll see the sun come shining through for you".

I know Velu truly believed in that. Hence his smile.

Missing your smile, my friend. Rest well.

BY MOHSIN ABDULLAH