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JIM MALLOY

Jim Malloy, the soft-spoken pilot of the second Olsonite Eagle (#42), is best known for his versatility and his ability to get the most out of any piece of machinery he drives.

Malloy, 35, began racing in his hometown, Denver, in 1955, pushing semi-modifieds around Lakeside Speedway until 1962, when he began running super modifieds in the Canadian-American Modified Racing Association (CAMRA).

He soon became a star on that circuit, winning the Copper Cup Modified at Salt Lake City in 1962 and 1965, the Columbine Cup at Denver three consecutive years (1963-64-65), the Daffodil Cup at Victoria, Canada, in 1964, and the Gold Cup at Edmonton, Canada, in 1965.

Along the way, he picked up the CAMRA championship in both 1964 and 1965.

His start in USAC racing in 1968 was auspicious, when he became the fastest rookie qualifier in the Indianapolis 500, then finished 10th in overall USAC standings for the season.

In 1969, he finished 11th at Indy in his second try, and was one of only two USAC drivers to compete that season in all four USAC divisions, championship, stock car, sprint and midget.

In 1970, driving somewhat antiquated equipment, he managed a fourth, a fifth, and a sixth in three championship events, as well as qualifying in the third row at Indy, right next to Mario Andretti and his new Olsonite teammate, Bobby Unser.

When his 1971 Indy car seemed unable to reach speeds necessary to qualify, he accepted a bid from Dan Gurney to drive the second Olsonite Eagle, jumping in the car on the first qualifying day and earning 10th position, the inside spot in the fourth row. His 171.838 qualifying speed marked the fastest time he had ever recorded on the Indy track.

Jim was born in Columbus, Nebraska, then moved with his parents to Colorado, where he graduated from high school in Englewood, and attended Colorado State University for two years.

In high school, he won his letter in both baseball and football, but succumbed to the lure of the race tracks shortly afterwards.

He lives with his wife, Mary, and three young children in Denver.

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