

A HISTORY OF NOLAN RYAN



1940

JANUARY 31, 1947

BORN IN REFUGIO, TEXAS, THE YOUNGEST OF SIX CHILDREN TO FATHER LYNN NOLAN RYAN AND MOTHER MARTHA LEE HANCOCK.

JUNE 28, 1965

RYAN GRADUATES FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND SIGNS WITH THE NEW YORK METS ORGANIZATION, PLAYING FOR THEIR MINOR LEAGUE TEAM THROUGHOUT 1966.

JUNE 26, 1967

MARRIES RUTH HOLDORFF, WHO ARE NOW SHARING 50+ YEARS OF MARRIAGE AND HAVE THREE CHILDREN TOGETHER, SONS REESE AND REID AND DAUGHTER WENDY.

1968 - 1971

BECOMES A PITCHER WITH THE METS' MAJOR LEAGUE TEAM.

OCTOBER 11-16, 1969

THE METS WIN THE 1969 WORLD SERIES, FOUR GAMES TO ONE, AGAINST THE AL BALTIMORE ORIOLES. RYAN CONTRIBUTED BY SAVING GAME THREE IN THE SERIES WITH 2 1/3 INNINGS OF SHOUTOUT RELIEF PITCHING, HOWEVER; THIS WOULD END UP BEING HIS ONLY WORLD SERIES APPEARANCE OF HIS CAREER.

1970

DECEMBER 10, 1971

THE CALIFORNIA ANGELS TRADE JIM FREGOSI TO THE METS FOR 4 PLAYERS, INCLUDING NOLAN RYAN.

NOVEMBER 19, 1979

THE ASTROS SIGN RYAN AS A REENTRY FREE AGENT, TO A FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT. THE OFFER OF \$4.5 MILLION MADE RYAN THE HIGHEST PAID PLAYER IN THE MAJOR LEAGUE (AT THAT TIME).

SEPTEMBER 26, 1981

RYAN NO-HITS THE DODGERS, BECOMING THE ONLY ML PITCHER TO REACH 5 CAREER NO HITTERS.

JULY 11, 1985

RYAN BECOMES THE FIRST PITCHER TO RECORD 4,000 STRIKEOUTS, FANNING DANNY HEEP IN THE 6TH INNING OF HOUSTON'S WIN OVER THE METS.

AUGUST 27, 1987

RYAN PASSES THE 200 STRIKEOUT BARRIER FOR A ML-RECORD 11TH TIME.

1988-1993

RYAN PITCHES FOR THE RANGERS. IN THOSE YEARS, HE'D STRIKE OUT MORE BATTERS THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE AMERICAN LEAGUE – 736.

1971-1979

1970

RYAN PITCHES FOR THE ANGELS. IN THIS TIME, HE ACHIEVES:

- TWO NO HITTERS AGAINST THE ROYALS ON MAY 15, 1973, AND THE TIGERS ON JUNE 15, 1973
- ONE NO HITTER AGAINST THE TWINS ON SEPT 28, 1974
- AND ANOTHER AGAINST THE ORIOLES ON JUNE 1, 1975.

1979-1988

RYAN PITCHES FOR THE ASTROS. IN THE YEARS 1987 AND 1988, RYAN WOULD BE DURING THIS YEAR, RYAN WOULD BE THE OLDEST PITCHER EVER TO LEAD HIS LEAGUE IN STRIKEOUTS.

APRIL 27, 1983

RYAN BREAKS WALTER JOHNSON'S CAREER STRIKEOUT RECORD OF 3,509, WHICH HAD STOOD SINCE 1927.

AUGUST 27, 1986

RYAN POSTS HIS 250TH CAREER VICTORY, ALLOWING ONE HIT IN 6 INNINGS AS THE ASTROS BEAT THE CUBS 7-1.

DECEMBER 7, 1988

THE RANGERS SIGN RYAN AS A FREE-AGENT PITCHER FOR A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT.

AUGUST 22, 1989

ACHIEVED CAREER STRIKEOUT NUMBER 5,000.

1990

JUNE 11, 1990

RYAN PITCHES HIS UNPRECEDENTED 6TH CAREER NO-HITTER – HE IS THE FIRST TO PITCH A NO-HITTER FOR 3 DIFFERENT TEAMS, AND THE FIRST TO THROW A NO-HITTER IN 3 DIFFERENT DECADES.

MAY 1, 1991

SHUTS DOWN TORONTO TO RECORD HIS 7TH NO-HITTER, WHILE BATTLING SEVERAL AILMENTS (SORE ACHILLES TENDON, CONSTANT BACK PAIN, AND A CRACKED-SKINNED, BLOODY RIGHT MIDDLE FINGER)

SEPTEMBER 22, 1993

RYAN TEARS HIS ULNAR COLLATERAL LIGAMENT IN HIS RIGHT ELBOW IN THE FIRST INNING AGAINST SEATTLE. LATER HE DESCRIBED, "I HEARD THE LIGAMENT POP LIKE A RUBBER BAND. THERE'S NO WAY I'LL EVER BE ABLE TO THROW AGAIN. MY BODY IS TELLING ME IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON AND DO SOMETHING ELSE." THIS WOULD BE THE 27TH AND FINAL SEASON IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES; AND HE RETIRES WITH 5,714 STRIKEOUTS AND 50 ADDITIONAL MAJOR LEAGUE RECORDS.

JULY 31, 1990

WINS HIS 300TH GAME IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES.

1992

THE ANGELS RETIRE RYAN'S #30.

AUGUST 4, 1993

RYAN'S FASTBALL HITS CHICAGO BATTER ROBIN VENTURA IN THE ARM. VENTURA STORMS THE MOUND TO ACCOST RYAN, BUT RYAN RETALIATES BY PUTTING THE BATTER IN A HEADLOCK AND PUNCHING THE TOP OF HIS HEAD. AFTERWARDS, VENTURA IS EJECTED FROM THE GAME AND RYAN IS ALLOWED TO STAY.

1996

TEXAS RANGERS AND HOUSTON ASTROS RETIRE RYAN'S #34. HE IS THE ONLY PLAYER IN MAJOR LEAGUE HISTORY TO HAVE HIS UNIFORM RETIRED BY THREE DIFFERENT TEAMS

JANUARY 5, 1999

RYAN IS ELECTED TO THE BASEBALL'S HALL OF FAME ON HIS FIRST YEAR OF ELIGIBILITY, AND IT IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1936 THAT THREE PLAYERS ARE ELECTED SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THEIR FIRST TRY. LATER ON JULY 25, 1999, RYAN ALONG WITH GEORGE BRETT, ROBIN YOUNT, AND ORLANDO CEPEDA, ARE INDUCTED INTO THE HALL OF FAME IN COOPERSTOWN.

1990



2010

FEBRUARY, 2008

RYAN IS NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE TEXAS RANGERS, BECOMING THE FIRST HALL OF FAME PLAYER TO BE THE TOP EXECUTIVE AT A MAJOR LEAGUE FRANCHISE SINCE CHRISTY MATHEWSON WITH THE BOSTON BRAVES. HE LATER RETIRED FROM THIS POSITION ON HALLOWEEN OF 2013.

2000

