



Don Demeter

Who replaced Hall of Famer Duke Snider in centerfield for the Dodgers? Yes, you're reading about him; it was Don Demeter. Don broke in with the Dodgers in 1958 in Los Angeles (he played 3 games for them in New York in 1956 as well). He won the World Series with the team in 1959. After 3 and a half seasons with the Dodgers, he was dealt to the Philadelphia Phillies for Turk Farrell.

In Philly, Don peaked in 1962 when he batted in 107 runs to go with 29 home runs and scored 85 runs. That placed him top 10 in RBI, HR's, batting average and slugging percentage and he finished 12th in MVP voting. He followed that season up with another strong season in Philly and for this his reward was a trade to the Detroit Tigers for future Hall of Famer Jim Bunning.

After 2+ strong years in Detroit, the Tigers saw outfielders Al Kaline, Willie Horton, Jim Northrup and Gates Brown crowding out Don in spacious Tiger Stadium and traded him to the Boston Red Sox for Earl Wilson. After two part seasons in Boston, he finished his career with the Cleveland Indians in 1967.

Don has pastored a Baptist Church in his home state of Oklahoma since 2002.

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