



## **Gary Lavelle**

Gary was certainly a true reliever – he started 3 games in his 745 game, 13 season career. Gary made his MLB debut in 1974 and played his first 11 seasons in San Francisco for the Giants. As a reliever in the bay area, he hit double-digits in wins three time with a high of 13 wins in 1978. He also achieved 20 saves in three different seasons. He was named to the all-star team in 1977 and 1983.

In 1985, Gary was traded to the Toronto Blue Jays for starting pitcher Jim Gott. He played almost two seasons in Toronto and played in the 1985 American League Championship Series, his only post-season appearance of his career.

After being released by the Blue Jays in August of 1986, he signed as a free agent with the Oakland A's where he finished out his career at the end of the season.

After his playing career, Gary stayed in baseball by coaching the baseball team at Greenbriar Christian Academy in Virginia.

Lavelle was a part of the Giants' famed God Squad, a group of Christian players on the team who actively participated in the chapel program and ran team Bible studies. In the later years of his career, Gary gave Blue Jays' announcer Jerry Howarth a Bible and challenged him to read it. Seeds were planted and Jerry later accepted Christ, becoming a great ambassador for the Lord in baseball.

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