



## **Jason Thompson**

Jason was selected in the fourth round by the Detroit Tigers and went straight to the big leagues. He began his Major League baseball career on April 23, 1976. Jason made an instant impact with both his hitting prowess and fielding skills. He was selected to the All-Star team three times; first with Detroit in 1977 and again in 1978. It was during this time with the Detroit Tigers that Jason earned his nick name, "Roof Top" - due to his ability to hit balls on to the top of the towering high right field roof. On two occasions in 1977, he powered the ball over the roof and completely out of the stadium. Very few of the great players who have played at Tiger Stadium have ever achieved such a feat.

Thompson was traded to the California Angels in 1980 and in 1981 made his debut in the National League with the Pittsburgh Pirates. Here again, his outstanding play and hitting ability lead to his third appearance as an All-Star in 1982.

Jason had two "career years" – one in each league. With the Tigers in 1977, he hit 31 home runs to go with 105 RBI. Then, in 1982 with the Pittsburgh Pirates, he again clobbered 31 home runs to go with 101 RBI.

He finished his career with one final season with the Montreal Expos in 1986. Unfortunately knee injuries cut his stellar career short.

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