



Jerry Rice

Jerry Rice is viewed by many to be the greatest NFL wide receiver to ever play the game, which is mainly brought on for his strong work ethic on and off of the field. Rice was selected to the Pro Bowl 13 times (1986-1996, 1998 and 2002) in his 20 NFL seasons. He won three Super Bowl rings as a member of the San Francisco 49ers. He also played for the Oakland Raiders and Seattle Seahawks before retiring. Jerry took the NFL by storm in his rookie season for the 49ers in 1985, recording 49 catches for 927 yards. His performance in Super Bowl XXIII was outstanding as Rice caught 11 passes for 215 yards and a touchdown, assisting the 49ers to a narrow 20-16 win over the Cincinnati Bengals. His receptions and receiving yards were both Super Bowl records. For his performance, he became only the third wide receiver ever to earn Super Bowl MVP honors.

In 1989, he was once again a major factor in the 49ers championship win, finishing Super Bowl XXIV with 7 catches for 148 yards and a Super Bowl record 3 touchdown receptions. Rice made it back to the Super Bowl with the 49ers in the 1994 season. He proved to be a vital component in their 49-26 victory over the San Diego Chargers in Super Bowl XXIX, recording 10 receptions for 149 yards and 3 touchdowns.

During the season opener of the 1997 season he tore the anterior cruciate and medial collateral ligaments in his left knee. The injury broke his streak of 189 consecutive games played. Fourteen weeks later he made his return, much earlier than doctors wanted him to. He scored a touchdown, but when he came down with the catch, he cracked the patella in his left kneecap. He was forced to miss the pro bowl for the first time in 11 years. However, he made a full recovery in 1998.

After 2 more seasons with the 49ers, Rice left the team to sign with the Raiders. In 2002 he assisted Oakland to an appearance in Super Bowl XXXVII. His team lost the game 48-24, but he had a good performance in it, recording 5 receptions for 77 yards and a touchdown. His 48-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter made him the first player ever to catch a touchdown pass in 4 different Super Bowls.

Rice left the Raiders 4 games into the 2004 season and joined Seattle for the remainder of the year. Rice would play his last post-season game for Seattle which was a lost to St. Louis. He retired as the greatest receiver in NFL history.

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