



Stan Jonathan

Was there ever a tougher player in the NHL than little Stan Jonathan? Stan took on all comers in fights and rarely if ever lost a battle.

To understand how Stan inherited his second-to-none work ethic, you just have to look at his childhood. Jonathan was raised as the sixth child in a family of fourteen on the Six Nations' Reserve in Ontario. Life was hard although his dad – one of his biggest boosters – earned a good living on “the high steel”. Stan himself actually work on the high steel, as a rigger, building apartment and office towers in the U.S. and Canada. This of course was a very hazardous job.

Stan, a full-blooded Mohawk, to fight for everything in life, including his job in the NHL.



He was a true Bruin in the lunch-pail tradition of Don Cherry. Stan's fight against Montreal Canadiens' Pierre Bouchard in the 1978 playoffs is one of the all-time great pugilistic displays in the sport of hockey. This little fireplug is considered by many to be the best pound for pound fighter of all time. Just 5'8" 175lbs, he played the game like a human bowling ball. He loved to hit anything in sight and loved to get hit as well. Stan was a strong aggressive checker and a streaky scorer. He went after rebounds with reckless abandon. He wasn't fancy but he worked very hard and made things happen all the time when he was on the ice.

But Stan was more than tough. He also scored more than 20 goals in a season twice – an incredible feat for a player whose role was to intimidate the opposition.

Even today, Stan lives on a First Nations reserve where he is very much at home with his people.

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