



Alvis Woods

Alvis is an original Toronto Blue Jay, having made his major league debut with the team in their inaugural season of 1977. In fact, Alvis was only the sixth player in American League history to hit a home run on the first pitch he saw in his MLB career. He finished that first season with a very respectable .284 batting average, one of the highest on the team.

Alvis played with the Blue from 1977 to 1982 and in the 1980 season, he hit the magic .300 mark square on the nose and added 15 home runs in only 373 at bats. For good measure, his slugging percentage was a very strong .480.

After the 1982 season, Alvis was traded to the Oakland A's for Cliff Johnson but Al was released by Oakland in spring training. Al made a brief comeback to the majors in 1986 with the Minnesota Twins, the team from whom the Blue Jays drafted him in the expansion draft. He batted only 28 times for them but hit .321 with 2 home runs to go out on top.

Yes, Alvis was a fan favourite of those early Blue Jay teams and he remains a very likeable man today.

Al's Christian faith sustained him during some very difficult times in his life. His wife passed away when their daughter was quite young and Woods leaned heavily on the Lord to the strength to carry on and raise his family.

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