

Norm Ullman

Norm probably received less fanfare than any other 490-goal scorer in NHL history. But that was the way with Norm – understated. Norm was only 19 years old when he debuted with the Detroit Red Wings in 1955-56 his first of 12+ seasons in Motown. In those years with the Wings, he broke the 20-goal plateau 11 times, including a career high 42 goals in 1964-65 to lead the league. Norm had the unfortunate timing of joining the Wings when they were on a downswing after having won the Cup 4 times in the previous 6 years. Alas, Norm never was on a Stanley Cup winner.

Ullman was a fantastic two-way player. The was terrific at the give-and-go and almost always had more assists than goals. He was amazing on face-offs and always played a positionally sound game to keep his opponent in check defensively.

In 1968, Norm was a part of a multi-player deal between Detroit and the Toronto Maple Leafs which dramatically changed the rosters of both teams. Norm went to the Leafs along with Paul Henderson and Floyd Smith in return for Frank Mahovlich, Carl Brewer, Pete Stemkowski and Garry Unger. Norm continued to produce in Toronto and scored a career high 85 points in 1970-71. The Leafs let Norm go in 1975 at age 39, but rather than quit, he chose to finish his career back in his home province of Alberta by playing for the WHA's Edmonton Oilers. Even at an advanced hockey age, Norm scored 130 points in 144 WHA games over two seasons.

Norm was rightly, and quietly, elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1982, He was a First Team All Star in 1965 and a Second Team All Star in 1967. He also played in 11 all-star games (1955, 1960 -1965, 1967 – 2969 and 1974).