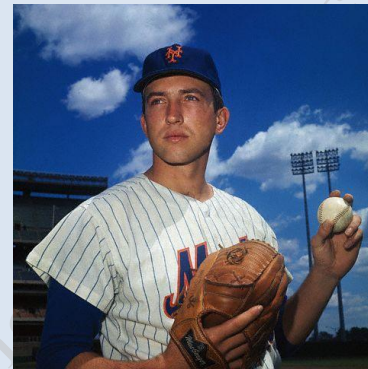




Jerry Koosman

Jerry was one of the premier pitchers in Major League Baseball during his 19 seasons in the big leagues for 1967 to 1985. After a couple of appearances in 1967, Jerry broke into the Mets starting rotation in 1968 and won 19 games as a rookie. He also posted 7 shutouts and a 2.08 ERA, both franchise records which surpassed teammate Tom Seaver's marks of the previous season. For that, he was named an All Star and finished second to Hall of Famer Johnny Bench in the Rookie of the Year voting.



In 1969, Jerry helped the Miracle Mets to a World Series Championship by winning 17 games and again being named an All Star. Other pitchers on that Amazing Mets team included Seaver, Nolan Ryan and Tug McGraw. Jerry was the winning pitcher in two World Series games as the Mets won the championship over the favoured Baltimore Orioles.

In 1976, Jerry had arguably his best season in a career of many great years. He won 21 games for the Mets and finished second to Randy Jones in Cy Young Award voting. However, the Mets traded away a lot of their talent in following years and Jerry's record suffered. In 1979, Jerry requested a trade to his home state Minnesota Twins after 12 seasons in the Big Apple. In his first year in the American League, he again was a 20-game winner. After almost 3 seasons with the Twins, Jerry was traded to the Chicago White Sox where he played for 2+ seasons before finishing his career with two final seasons with the Philadelphia Phillies. When he retired at age 42, Jerry had captured 222 career victories.



Jerry was inducted into the New York Mets Hall of Fame in 1989.

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