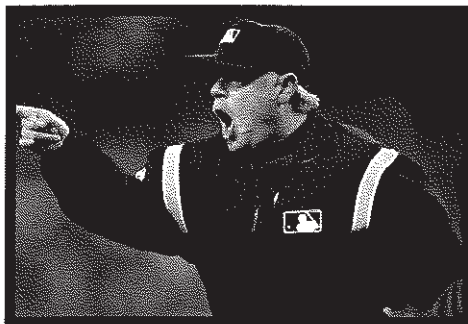


# Jim Joyce



Jim Joyce is one of the top Major League Baseball Umpires in the game. Last season, honor through a vote of the players, he received this highest honor.

A native of Toledo, he attended St. John the Baptist grade school in Point Place where he played CYO sports. He then went on to Central Catholic High School where he excelled on the baseball diamond as a pitcher. He continued playing baseball while attending Bowling Green State University where he earned a B.S. in Education in 1977. He began umpiring Minor League Baseball after his college graduation.

Jim spent 11 years as a Minor League umpire before getting the “call” up to the Major League. He joined the MLB umpire roster in 1989 and now has 23 years of MLB umpire service. During those 21 years he has worked the All Star Game (1994 & 2001), Division Series (1995, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2008), The League Championship Series (1997, 2004, 2006 & 2007) and the World Series (1999 & 2001).

He was also the second base umpire when Nolan Ryan recorded his 5,000 strikeout and was at first base as Robin Yount reached the 3,000-hit milestone.

His proudest moment as a Major League Baseball umpire was working the 1999 & 2001 World Series. He provided commentary for the HBO Documentary “Nine Innings From Ground Zero” about the 2001 World Series.

Jim got his start as an official while a student at Central Catholic when he worked as a CYO basketball referee. He remembers “spending many Saturday mornings at Westminster gym refereeing games while freezing in there”. Jim was inducted into the Central Catholic High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000.

His father, Jim, was a member of the Logsdon-Walla Post 639 from March 6, 1963 until he passed away on July 22, 2009. His mother Ellouise still resides in Toledo and Jim visits her when he works games in Detroit and Cleveland.

Jim and his wife Kay reside in Portland, Oregon along with their two children Jimmy and Keri. Jim enjoys playing golf and coaching basketball in the off-season and his hobbies include reading, art and Christmas lighting.

We are thrilled to welcome Jim back to Toledo and thank him for helping us to raise money for the youth of our area.