

Darren Daulton

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Darren Daulton, nicknamed **Dutch**, is a graduate of the Arkansas City, Kansas Babe Ruth League and a former Major League Baseball catcher best remembered for his years with the Philadelphia Phillies. He earned a World Series ring with the Florida Marlins in 1997.

- Daulton's finest season came in 1992. That season, Daulton led the National League in runs batted in with 109. He also finished in the top 10 on base percentages, slugging percentage, OPS, home runs, walks, runs created, and extra base hits. Daulton's impressive season earned him his first all-star appearance, the National League Silver Slugger Award, and sixth place in National League MVP voting.

Daulton was one of the catalysts of the NL pennant winning 1993 Phillies. Although the Phillies lost the World Series, he was again named an all-star, drove in more than 100 runs for the second consecutive season. Daulton finished in the top 10 on base percentage, runs batted in, walks, and extra base hits. Daulton also finished in the top 10 in times on base and intentional walks.

In 1997, after 17 years with the organization, the Phillies traded Daulton to the Florida Marlins. By this time, Daulton's knee injuries had forced him to change positions. After playing half of the season with the Phillies as a right fielder, the Marlins used Daulton as a first baseman and pinch hitter. He put up respectable numbers in his final season, hitting .263 with 14 home runs, 63 RBIs and 68 runs scored in just 395 at bats. After the Marlins won the 1997 World Series, Daulton announced his retirement.

Daulton is most remembered as a strong leader and a very big-hitting player with fine pitch-handling and defensive skills. He was ranked the 25th greatest catcher of all time and was inducted into the Philadelphia Phillies Baseball Hall of Fame in 2010.

