



PRESS RELEASE

May 17, 2011

Harmon Clayton Killebrew 1936 - 2011

World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame Remembers National Baseball Hall of Famer and Minnesota Twin Great Harmon Killebrew

BOISE -- Harmon Killebrew, a 2006 inductee of the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame, passed away Tuesday morning at his home in Scottsdale, Ariz. He was 74. Killebrew, who had been battling esophageal cancer, died peacefully, with his wife Nita, and their family at his side.

"Harmon Killebrew was a hall of famer on the field and in the community," said World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame board member and former sportscaster Larry Maneely. "Harmon's achievements on the baseball diamond are only matched by his record of community service, commitment to his family and as a gentleman. We will miss our friend greatly."

A member of the 2006 class of the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame and 1984 class of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, Killebrew will forever be remembered for his 573 career home runs, as the 1969 American League Most Valuable Player, and as one of the greatest baseball hitters of his era.

Throughout a 22-year Major League Baseball career, Killebrew, nicknamed "Killer" was known as a muscular slugger that was feared by opposing pitchers for his home run prowess.

On Friday, the Minnesota Twins released a statement from Killebrew, who said he has "exhausted all options" for treatment of the "awful disease" and that the cancer is incurable. "It is with profound sadness that I share with you that my continued battle with esophageal cancer is coming to an end," Killebrew said. "My illness has progressed beyond my doctors' expectation of cure."

Born June 29, 1936, the native of Payette, Idaho broke into the major leagues in 1954 with the American League Washington Senators. After playing seven seasons in the nation's capital, the franchise moved to the Minneapolis where Killebrew logged 14 seasons with the Twins. He finished his pro baseball career in 1975 with the Kansas City Royals.

Killebrew and Nita had nine children.

[Learn more about Harmon Killebrew's community service](#)

[Learn more about Harmon Killebrew's induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame](#)

About The World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame

The World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame (www.SportsHumanitarian.com), located on the Boise State University campus in Idaho, recognizes individuals and organizations from the world of amateur and professional athletics who, through their humanitarian efforts, distinguish themselves as role models in the community. Over 40 sports-humanitarians have been enshrined in Boise including tennis great Arthur Ashe, Major League Baseball pioneer Jackie Robinson, NFL coaching legend Tom Landry, the NBA's David Robinson, soccer great Pelé and the Harlem Globetrotters. The Hall was the inspiration behind Boise's Humanitarian Bowl and its Humanitarian Awards program annually recognizes exceptional community-focused organizations and leaders from Major League Baseball, National Basketball Association, National Football League, National Hockey League, Major League Soccer, NASCAR, NCAA College Football and other organizations. The World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is open weekdays to visitors and humanitarians of all ages.

-- www.SportsHumanitarian.com --

National Humanitarian Awards

Nell & John Wooden Lifetime Coaching Achievement Award
Tradition of Excellence Award in cooperation with the Heisman Trophy Trust
Pro Team Community Award
Founder's Award

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