

= Curtis Joseph =

Curtis Shayne " CuJo " Joseph (born Curtis Munro ; April 29 , 1967) is a Canadian ice hockey coach and former professional player . He last played for the Toronto Maple Leafs of the National Hockey League during the 2008 ? 09 NHL season .

Joseph is immediately recognizable on the ice for his masks featuring a snarling dog , drawing inspiration from the Stephen King novel Cujo , which also happens to be his nickname , derived from the first two letters of his first and last names . Throughout his NHL career , Joseph played for a number of franchises , rising to prominence during the playoffs with the St. Louis Blues , Edmonton Oilers , and Toronto Maple Leafs . He has also played for the Detroit Red Wings , Phoenix Coyotes and Calgary Flames . He was also a member of Canada 's gold medal winning team at the 2002 Winter Olympics .

Joseph has the most career wins (454) of any goaltender in NHL history who never played on a Stanley Cup @-@ winning team , and also the first goaltender to have 30 or more wins in a regular season for five different teams .

= = Early life = =

Joseph was born on April 29 , 1967 to unmarried teenage parents . Five days after his birth , his mother , Wendy Munro , placed him for adoption with Jeanne Joseph , a nurse who had befriended her during her hospital stay , and her husband Harold Joseph . Jeanne and her husband decided to name the baby Curtis after his birth father Curtis Nickle . Curtis grew up with an older stepbrother Grant and a stepbrother Victor ; he also has three older stepsisters and a step brother from a previous marriage . The family was of mixed race with Harold and Victor being black . It was not until he signed with the St. Louis Blues that Joseph legally changed his name from Curtis Shayne Munro to Curtis Shayne Joseph .

For the majority of his childhood , Curtis was raised in East Gwillimbury (community of Sharon) . He initially attended Whitchurch Highlands Public School and then Huron Heights Secondary School . Curtis grew up playing hockey for the East Gwillimbury Eagles of the OMHA until moving west to play for his high school team , Notre Dame College (Wilcox , Saskatchewan) Although he led the Notre Dame Hounds to the Centennial Cup in 1987 @-@ 88 , and he played for the University of Wisconsin ? Madison of the NCAA , he was undrafted by the NHL . He signed as a free agent with the Blues in 1989 . In 1989 ? 90 season he played 23 games with the Peoria Rivermen in the IHL .

= = Playing career = =

Joseph is nicknamed " Cujo " and has worn the number 31 for the St. Louis Blues , Edmonton Oilers , Toronto Maple Leafs , Detroit Red Wings , Phoenix Coyotes and the Calgary Flames . Joseph is a three time NHL All @-@ Star (1994 , 1999 , 2000) , and he was awarded the 1999 ? 2000 King Clancy Memorial Trophy for exemplifying leadership qualities on and off the ice and making noteworthy humanitarian contributions to his community . In the 2002 Winter Olympics held in Salt Lake City , he was a member of the Olympic Gold Medal winning Canadian men 's hockey team .

= = = University of Wisconsin = = =

Curtis Joseph began his college play at the University of Wisconsin . While playing for the Badgers , Joseph won 21 games and was voted to the WCHA All Conference Team . Shortly after his freshman season , Joseph , despite not having been drafted , was signed by the St. Louis Blues to a free @-@ agent entry @-@ level contract .

= = = St. Louis Blues = = =

Joseph broke into the NHL in 1989 , playing for the St. Louis Blues . In the off @-@ season following the 1990 ? 91 NHL season , the Blues signed Brendan Shanahan from the New Jersey Devils . Shanahan was a restricted free agent , and thus the Devils were entitled to compensation . The teams could not agree on what the compensation was ; the Blues offered Curtis Joseph , Rod Brind 'Amour , and two draft picks , while the Devils wanted Scott Stevens . Joseph seemed to be the answer the Devils were looking for in goal , however the case went to arbitration , and a judge ruled that Stevens was to be awarded to the Devils in September 1991 .

Joseph would remain with the Blues until 1995 . The 1992 ? 93 NHL season was his most successful season as he played a key role in the upset of the Chicago Blackhawks , the reigning Clarence Campbell Conference regular season champions , sweeping them in four games in the first round of the playoffs . The Blues then faced the Toronto Maple Leafs in the second round and thanks to Joseph the series went to seven games . The Leafs eventually prevailed . Because of his efforts , he was nominated as a finalist for the Vezina Trophy that season , finishing third in voting behind winner Ed Belfour and Tom Barrasso .

= = = Edmonton Oilers = = =

In 1995 , he was traded (with Mike Grier) to the Edmonton Oilers for a first @-@ round pick in the 1996 entry draft (eventually Marty Reasoner) and a first @-@ round pick in the 1997 entry draft . With Edmonton , Joseph won two Zane Feldman Trophies (team MVP) and one Most Popular Player award . He backstopped the Oilers to first round playoff upsets of the Dallas Stars and Colorado Avalanche in 1997 and 1998 , respectively , their first playoff series wins since 1992 .

= = = Toronto Maple Leafs = = =

Following the 1997 ? 98 season , Joseph signed as a free agent with the Toronto Maple Leafs , a move which made him unpopular in Edmonton . In his first road game against Edmonton as a member of the Leafs , Joseph posted a shutout and was named the first star of the game . Throughout the game , he was greeted with boos , however , he was cheered by the fans in Edmonton upon being announced the first star of the game due to being a fan favourite . It was with the Leafs that Joseph became a superstar and he was consistently one of the most popular players of both his team (since Wendel Clark and Doug Gilmour) and in the league . While with the Leafs , he had three consecutive seasons of 30 + wins , he was twice runner @-@ up for the Vezina Trophy in 1999 and 2000 , a finalist for the Lester B. Pearson Award in 1999 , and won the King Clancy Memorial Trophy in 2000 . The NHL Awards presentation was held in Toronto in both 1999 and 2000 , both years that Joseph was runner @-@ up for the Vezina . When Dominik Hasek was announced the winner in 1999 and again when Olaf Kolzig was announced the winner in 2000 , the audience in Toronto booed loudly , and also broke out into chants of " Cujo , Cujo ! " . Joseph played a key role in the Leafs ' run to the Eastern Conference Finals in 1999 and 2002 . In 2000 , during Game One of the series against the New Jersey Devils , he was considered the deciding factor in the 2 @-@ 1 win where the Leafs were outshot 33 @-@ 21 . [1]

After Leafs General Manager Pat Quinn was unwilling to give Joseph a four @-@ year contract (he offered three years) , he left after the 2001 ? 2002 season to sign with the Detroit Red Wings . Some also speculated that the relationship between Quinn and Joseph was frosty because Quinn had benched Joseph in the Salt Lake City Olympics after the first game , although Joseph himself denied the rumours , saying that he played a bad first game against Sweden (losing 5 @-@ 2) and that Martin Brodeur played very well for the rest of the tournament , earning his spot as the starter . Joseph had also hinted at wanting to play for a team that could win it all , implying the Leafs were not such a team . Joseph 's move to Detroit was highly publicized and unpopular in Toronto .

= = = Detroit Red Wings = = =

Joseph moved to the Detroit Red Wings , who had just won the Stanley Cup . Joseph initially was

not popular with Red Wings fans but eventually found his form in the latter half of the 2002 ? 03 season to backstop his team to the division title . Detroit was upset in the first round of the playoffs in 2003 by the eventual conference champions , the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim .

In the 2003 ? 04 season , he was originally Detroit 's backup goalie when Dominik Ha?ek came out of retirement , and Detroit management tried to trade Joseph , since the team also had a capable backup in Manny Legace . However , Joseph 's \$ 8 million USD per year contract made him hard to move . After a stint in the minors , he returned to the Red Wings lineup while Ha?ek was nursing a groin injury . The Red Wings plan was to attract him to other teams until Ha?ek returned to the lineup . But in February , Ha?ek decided to call it quits for the season , which once again solidified Joseph 's position as the Red Wings starting goaltender . The Wings finished first overall in the league . The Wings were defeated in the second round of the playoffs in six games by the eventual Stanley Cup finalists from the Western Conference , the Calgary Flames .

= = = Phoenix Coyotes = = =

Joseph moved to the Phoenix Coyotes via free agency in 2005 and signed a one @-@ year deal . On October 28 , 2005 , he won his 400th NHL game . On March 28 , 2006 , he posted his 424th career win , thereby moving into sixth place on the NHL ? s all @-@ time list , passing Tony Esposito . Joseph had shown interest in re @-@ joining the Toronto Maple Leafs , indicating that he would be fine with a back @-@ up role and a reduced salary . In September 2007 the Ottawa Senators quietly expressed interest in acquiring Joseph if they could unload Martin Gerber and his large contract . Joseph was a member of Team Canada in the 2007 Spengler Cup , leading them to the championship on December 31 , 2007 .

= = = Calgary Flames = = =

On January 14 , 2008 , Joseph signed a one @-@ year , US \$ 1 @.@ 5 Million contract with the Calgary Flames . On March 1 , 2008 , Joseph moved past Terry Sawchuk for fourth place in all @-@ time NHL wins with 448 in a 3 @-@ 1 win over his former team , the Phoenix Coyotes . On April 13 , 2008 , Joseph replaced Mikka Kiprusoff less than four minutes into the first period of Game # 3 of the Flames ' first round series of the 2008 playoffs with the San Jose Sharks . Joseph backstopped the Flames to a come from behind 4 @-@ 3 win after initially falling behind 3 @-@ 0 . This win made him the first goaltender to win a post @-@ season game as a member of five different teams : St.Louis , Edmonton , Toronto , Detroit and Calgary .

= = = Back to Toronto = = =

On July 1 , 2008 , Joseph rejoined the Toronto Maple Leafs by signing a 1 @-@ year , \$ 700 @,@ 000 contract . Joseph served primarily as a back @-@ up for most of the season , only playing 21 games . On December 30 , 2008 , he recorded his 450th career win in a 4 @-@ 3 overtime victory against the Atlanta Thrashers , and on April 8 , 2009 , he recorded his 352nd NHL loss , tying Gump Worsley for the NHL record for most losses by a goaltender . Martin Brodeur subsequently set a new record and finished with 397 losses .

Joseph announced his retirement on January 12 , 2010 in Toronto .

Currently Joseph is a goaltending coach for the Newmarket Hurricanes of the OJHL .

= = Awards and honours = =

Selected to three NHL All @-@ Star Games : 1994 , 1999 and 2000

Winner of the 2000 King Clancy Memorial Trophy

Inducted into St.Louis Sports Hall of Fame , 2015

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season = = =

* Note : As of the 2005 ? 06 season , ties have been replaced by an overtime or shootout loss

= = = Playoffs = = =

= = International play = =

Joseph represented Canada at :

1996 IIHF World Championships (Silver Medal)

1996 World Cup of Hockey (Lost Final)

1998 Winter Olympics (4th place)

2002 Winter Olympics (Gold Medal)

2007 Spengler Cup (Gold Medal)