

# 1980 HOUSTON ASTROS

93-70 1st  
MGR Bill Virdon (#7)

DP: 311 to 334

Error: 351 to 355

	BA	SB	W/K	HR	T	D	L	R	RNG	Def.		
Art Howe #18	.283	1		121	124	136	252	251	AR		1B77, 3B25, SS5, 2B3	R R
Joe Morgan "Little Joe" #8	.243	24	PW	115	121	133	233	235	AAR	SD	2B130, PH	L R
Craig Reynolds #12	.226	2		112	115	124	226	231	AAR		SS135	L R
Enos Cabell "Big E" #23	.276	21	MW	111	114	126	252	245	AAR		3B150, 1B1	R R
Terry Puhl #21	.282	27		115	121	135	251	251	AAR	SD/T-1	OF135(RF/CF/LF)	L R
Cesar Cedeno #28	.308	48		114	121	143	263	256	S	SD/T-1	OF136(CF)	R R
Jose Cruz #25	.302	36		114	116	134	252	256	S	SD/T-1	OF158(LF)	L L
Alan Ashby #14	.256	0		112	113	133	242	241	SLO		C114	B R
Rafael Landestoy #17	.247	23		111	115	126	241	235	AAR	SD(2B)	2B94, SS65, 3B3, OF1(CF)	B R
Denny Walling #29	.299	4		112	116	125	253	255	AR		1B63, PH, OF19(RF)	L R
Jeffrey Leonard #30	.213	4		113	122	133	224	224	AAR	T-1	OF56(RF/CF), PH, 1B11	R R
Luis Pujols #6	.199	0		-	111	121	221	221	SLO		C75	R R
Danny Heep #20	.276	0		-	-	142	244	246	AR		1B22, PH	L L
Dave Bergman #16	.256	1		-	113	142	235	242	AR		1B59, PH, OF5(LF/RF)	L L
Gary Woods #15	.377	1	MW	122	-	154	325	323	AR		OF14(RF/LF), PH	R R
Julio Gonzalez #9	.115	1	MW	-	-	114	154	146	AR		SS16, PH, 3B11, 2B2	R R
Bruce Bochy #13	.182	0	PW PK	-	-	124	214	213	SLO		PH, C10, 1B1	R R
Joe Niekro	.275	0	MW	-	-	132	251	245	SLO		P37	R R
Ken Forsch	.234	1	MW PK	-	-	122	234	232	SLO		P32	R R
Nolan Ryan	.086	0	PK	114	-	-	143	136	SLO	LD	P35	R R
Vern Ruhle	.245	0	PK	-	-	131	235	235	SLO		P28	R R
J. R. Richard	.154	0	MW PK	116	-	135	164	163	SLO		P17	R R
Joaquin Andujar	.172	0	PK	121	132	-	212	211	AR	SD	P35	B R
Pitcher R	.110	0	MW PK	111	-	113	145	142	SLO			
Pitcher L	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	145	146	SLO			

	ERA	IP	W	K	G	GS	SV		
Joe Niekro #36	3.55	256	132	625	37	36	0	.275	R R
Nolan Ryan #34 LD	3.35	234	141	551	35	35	0	.086	R R "The Ryan Express"
Ken Forsch #43	3.20	222	123	635	32	32	0	.234	R R
Vern Ruhle #48	2.37	159	123	636	28	22	0	.245	R R (last name pronounced RULE)
Joaquin Andujar #47 SD	3.91	122	133	614	35	14	2	.172	B R
J. R. Richard #50	1.90	114	135	524	17	17	0	.154	R R James Rodney
Gordie Pladson #26 #33 LD	4.35	41	136	642	12	6	0	.000	R R
Dave Smith #45	1.93	103	132	553	57	0	10	.000	R R
Joe Sambito #35	2.19	90	126	551	64	0	17	.000	L L
Frank LaCorte #31 LD	2.82	83	146	553	55	0	11	.167	R R
Randy Niemann #46	5.45	33	133	623	22	1	1	.333	L L
Bert Roberge #42	5.92	24	136	635	14	0	0	.000	R R

J. R. Richard's wonderful career came to a tragic halt when he began feeling numbness in his throwing arm and confusing, unclear sight during a game, July 14<sup>th</sup>. Richard went on the disabled list, got checked by a physician who diagnosed the problem, but who suggested no surgery be done on a blocked arm artery. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, the big righthander was loosening-up in the outfield when he said he developed a headache, arm weakness, and later paralysis which caused him to collapse and black out. He had suffered a major stroke. After rehabilitation, Richard attempted a comeback in 1981 and again in 1982 in the minors, but by 1983 his reactions during active on-field play were deemed dangerously slow coupled with sight difficulties. He never pitched a regular season game again in the big leagues...Free agents Nolan Ryan and former Astro star Joe Morgan were signed during the off-season. Other team leaders: Terry Puhl (13 home runs, 55 RBI); Jose Cruz (11 homers, 91 RBI, 185 base hits, 79 runs scored); Joe Niekro (20 wins, 11 complete games), Ken Forsch and Vern Ruhle (both 12 victories); and Ryan (11 wins, 200 K's)...The Astros hit .261, 75 home runs, and led the majors with 67 triples. Morgan, now 36, clubbed 11 homers, tied former teammate Dan Driessen for the league lead in walks (93), and played in 141 games...The pitching corps posted the big league's best ERA (3.10) and most strikeouts (929). Ryan got his 3,000<sup>th</sup> career strike out July 4<sup>th</sup>...The Astros and Dodgers, tied for the division top-spot, played a Game #163 to determine the champion. At Dodger Stadium, October 6<sup>th</sup>, Houston knocked off L. A. by a 7-1 score behind Niekro...The Astros winged on to Philadelphia where the Phils won Game 1 of the NLCS, 3-1. A four-run tenth inning in Game 2 led to a 7-4 Astros victory in ten innings in Philly. Game 3 at the Astrodome, Houston won 1-0 in ten; then in Game 4 in Houston, the Phillies scored three in the eighth and two in the top of the tenth to throttle the home "nine," 5-3. Game 5 was a dandy: After seven innings, the Astros led the decisive game, 5-2, before the Phillies loaded the bases with none out against Ryan in the eighth. Two runs scored on a walk to Pete Rose and a groundout by Keith Moreland. Del Unser tied the game with a single followed by Manny Trillo's two-run triple to put the Phils on top, 7-5. Houston re-tied the contest in the last of the eighth, but Philadelphia

would score the winning run on doubles by Unser and Garry Maddox in the top of the tenth inning. The Astros went out 1-2-3 in the last of the tenth, winding-up a scintillating championship playoff series with an 8-7 final score.