

Nolan Ryan was named as the tenth President in Texas Rangers team history on February 6, 2008. He oversees all baseball and business operations for the organization and represents the club at Major League Owners meetings with Thomas O. Hicks and Thomas O. Hicks, Jr.



Baseball's all-time strikeout leader has had a dramatic impact on the franchise in his first year on the job. Off the field, he has instilled a renewed commitment to providing the best fan experience and making the Rangers a strong community partner. A series of improvements, including new scoreboards, are being made to Rangers Ballpark in Arlington for the 2009 season.

Ryan's pedigree as one of the greatest pitchers in major league history has also served as a positive influence as the Rangers develop and refine their pitching philosophies, which incorporate Nolan's trademarks of conditioning, hard work, good mechanics, focus, and mental toughness.

Ryan is the just the third Hall of Fame player to serve as the President of a Major League Baseball franchise, joining John Montgomery Ward (1912) and Christy Mathewson (1923 and 1925), both with the Boston Braves.

The 62-year-old Ryan was previously affiliated with the Rangers for nearly 15 years as a player and Special Assistant. Initially signing with Texas as a free agent on December 7, 1988, the righthander spent five memorable years in a Rangers uniform before retiring after the 1993 season. He then served as Special Assistant to the President under his personal services contract, assisting in the club's baseball, marketing, and public relations activities until January 2004. He is an inaugural member of the Texas Rangers Baseball Hall of Fame (2003) and is the only player to have his number retired by the club (#34).

Elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility, Ryan was inducted on July 25, 1999 wearing a Rangers cap on his Hall of Fame plaque. Nolan was elected to the Hall of Fame on 98.79% of the eligible ballots, a figure which remains the second highest in history. He is the only player to ever have his uniform number retired by three different teams with the Angels (#30) and Astros (#34) joining the Rangers.

After leaving the Rangers, Ryan spent four years as Special Assistant to the General Manager for the Houston Astros after joining the organization in February 2004. In that capacity, he assisted the baseball operations staff in a variety of areas on the major and minor league level.

Nolan compiled a 324-292 record with a 3.19 earned run average in 807 appearances in an unprecedented 27 seasons with the New York Mets (1966; 1968-71), California Angels (1972-79), Astros (1980-88), and Rangers (1989-93). The all-time leader in strikeouts (5714) and no-hitters (7), Nolan has owned or shared 53 Major League records. He is fifth in lifetime innings (5386.0), tied for seventh in shutouts (61), and tied for 14th in victories while his 773 starts are second only to Cy Young (815). An eight-time All-Star, Ryan also threw 12 one-hitters, tying Bob Feller for the most ever, and owns two of the top four single-season strikeout totals in Major League history, including an all-time best 383 K's with the Angels in 1973. He fanned 10 or more batters an ML record 215 times.

In his five seasons with the Rangers, Nolan was 51-39 with a 3.30 ERA and 939 strikeouts in 840.0 innings over his 129 starts. He ranks fourth in team history in strikeouts and ERA (400.0 + IP) and established a club record with 301 strikeouts in 1989.

Ryan reached several milestones while wearing a Texas uniform. He threw his sixth (June 11, 1990 at Oakland) and seventh (May 1, 1991 vs. Toronto) no-hitters and recorded his 300th career win on July 31, 1990 at Milwaukee. He became the first and only pitcher in baseball history to record 5,000 strikeouts when he fanned Oakland's Rickey Henderson on Aug. 22, 1989 at Arlington Stadium. He threw his final pitch with the Rangers on September 22, 1993 at the age of 46.

After his retirement as an active player, Ryan was able to pursue a number of business ventures. He is a Principal Owner of Ryan-Sanders Baseball, which owns and operates the Round Rock Express of the Pacific Coast League and the Corpus Christi Hooks of the Texas League, both Astros affiliates. The two franchises have been among the most successful in the minor leagues over the last several years.

For a number of years Nolan owned and served as Chairman of the Board of the Express Bank in Alvin and the Express Bank of Texas in Round Rock. He currently owns Nolan Ryan's Waterfront Restaurant near Three Rivers, Texas, and has several working cattle ranches in South Texas.

In December 1999, Nolan became a limited partner in Beefmaster Cattlemen, LP, a branded beef company that markets Nolan Ryan Tender Aged Beef. He is a board member and past President of the Beefmaster Breeders United, a national cattle organization. His other civic involvements include serving on the Boards of Directors of the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation, Nolan Ryan Foundation, Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund, and American Breeds Coalition. He served on the Board of Trustees of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Foundation and is a member of the Texas Heart Institute's National Advisory Council.

The Nolan Ryan Foundation built the Nolan Ryan Center for Continuing Education at Alvin Community College, a facility which opened in 1996. He also sponsors the Nolan Ryan Scholarship Fund at Alvin Community College.

Ryan was appointed by then Governor George W. Bush to a six-year term as a commissioner with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission on Feb. 24, 1995. He served as Vice Chairman of the Commission from June 1, 1995-Aug 28, 1997.

Nolan and his wife, Ruth, were married on June 26, 1967, and have three children: Robert Reid (11/21/71), Nolan Reese (1/21/76), and Wendy Lynn (3/22/77). Reid, who pitched at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth and for two

years (1994-95) in the Texas Rangers' minor league system, is Owner and CEO of Ryan-Sanders Baseball and Reese, who also played at TCU, is Owner and CFO of Ryan Sanders Baseball. Nolan and Ruth have six grandchildren: Jackson, Victoria and Ella - children of Reid and daughter-in-law Nicole; Caroline and Julia - daughters of Reese and daughter-in-law Alison; and Nolan Montgomery, son of Wendy and son-in-law Andrew Bivins.

Nolan was born on Jan. 31, 1947, in Refugio, Texas. His family moved to Alvin when he was six weeks old, and he remained an Alvin resident until 2003, when the Ryans moved to Georgetown. They also have a residence in Fort Worth.