



Larry Hillman

Some say that since Larry Hillman played for 8 different NHL teams, he wasn't a wanted player. Instead, I say that he was a very wanted player as he played for 19 NHL and 3 WHA seasons that started in the Original Six era and ended after a second round of expansion and the launch of the WHA.

Larry played for the Detroit Red Wings as an 18-year old in 1955 and won the Stanley Cup in his first season. He played 3 seasons in Detroit before playing his next 3 seasons in Boston. He then spent his longest time with any one team, eight seasons, with the Toronto Maple Leafs where he won two more cups, while the Leafs were winning 4 cups – Larry spent significant parts of each season in the minors and didn't always play in the playoffs. In 1968-69, the expansion era, Larry played for both the Minnesota North Stars and Montreal Canadiens (where he won another Stanley Cup) in one season before moving on to the Philadelphia Flyers for two seasons. A season split between the Los Angeles Kings and Buffalo Sabres was followed by a final NHL season in Buffalo in 1972-73. He then left the NHL for the WHA's Cleveland Crusaders for two seasons before one final stop with the Winnipeg Jets. Larry then coached the Jets. How's that for needing an atlas of North America?

But Larry wasn't the only hockey talent in the family. While Larry was playing 790 NHL games and another 192 WHA games, brother Wayne played 691 NHL games and 126 WHA games – Wayne "only" played for 4 NHL teams and 1 WHA team. And brother Floyd chipped in with 6 games for the Boston Bruins.

