



## **Charlie Simmer**

Charlie may have struggled to get started in the NHL, but once he hit his stride, he dominated offensively during his peak years.

Charlie broke into the NHL with the California Golden Seals, a league sad-sack. Yet, he had trouble sticking with the big team and bounced between the NHL and the minors for a total of 4 seasons. He transferred to Cleveland when the Golden Seals became the Barons and then signed as a free agent with the Los Angeles Kings in 1977. In a 1978 call-up, Charlie scored 48 points in 38 games, a sign of things to come.

In the 1979-80 season, he was partnered with Marcel Dionne and Dave Taylor to create the Triple Crown Line. That year, Charlie broke loose and scored 56 goals and 101 points. That season, Simmer scored at least one goal in 13 consecutive games threatening the all-time record of 16 games set back over 50 years before. The following season, Charlie duplicated his 56-goal effort to go with 105 points, but severely broke his leg late in the season. Much of the following season meant rehab and getting back into shape and in the 1982-83 season, Charlie, who always had more goals than assists, did an about-face and had almost twice the number of assists as goals. In 1983-84, he showed that he was completely recovered and scored 44 goals to go with 92 points.

In 1984, Charlie was traded to the Boston Bruins, a more defensively-oriented team. Nevertheless, he scored at a point-per-game average during his 3 years in Beantown and was awarded the Bill Masterton Trophy in 1986 for his remarkable comeback. Charlie ended his NHL career with one final year with the Pittsburgh Penguins in 1987-88.

Charlie Simmer was named to the First All Star Team twice (1980 & 1981) and played in two all-star games to go with his Masterton Trophy, but he was never on a cup-winning team.