



2010 Legend Andre Thornton

He is a two-time American League All-Star. He finished his career with 244 doubles, 253 home runs, a batting average of .254, an on-base percentage of .360, and a slugging percentage of .452. For three seasons, he was in the top 5 in home runs in his league, and he was in his league's top 5 in walks four times. Thornton finished his career with more bases on balls (876) than strikeouts (851). His successful career was spent playing for the Chicago Cubs from 1973-1976 and the Cleveland Indians from 1976-1987. In August 2007, he was inducted into the Cleveland Indians Hall of Fame along with Jim Bagby, Sr., Mike Garcia, and Charles Nagy. Thornton is also a member of the minor league Reading Phillies Hall of Fame. The Indians also named Thornton as a member of their "Top 100 Greatest Indians." In 1977, Thornton and his son Andy (André Jr.) were injured in an automobile accident that took the life of his wife Gertrude and three-year-old daughter Theresa Gertrude. In 1983 he wrote the book *Triumph Born of Tragedy*, which is an account of the accident and his Christian faith.

In 1979, Thornton married Gail Jones, a gifted singer and former member of The Jones Sisters Trio gospel group. In addition to André Jr., the couple have two other sons, Jonathan and Dean. Today, Thornton is a successful businessman. He is president and CEO of ASW Global, a supply chain management company.

"I have had the privilege to speak at a number of FCA events here in Northeast Ohio. The ministry of FCA has and continues to impact the lives of our athletes and coaches; we are thankful to the Lord for the men and women who have served our community over the years."