

#4 - Lars-Erik (Little General) Sjoberg

Lars-Erik Sjoberg

Defense

Born April 5, 1944 in Falun, Sweden

Died on October 20, 1987

Height: 5' 8" Weight: 179

Signed as a free agent, May 23, 1974. Rights retained prior to Expansion Draft, June 9, 1979.

Defenseman Lars-Erik Sjoberg signed with the Jets in May 1974 and he remained with the Jets for six seasons. The stocky defender immediately became one of the Jets' leaders on and off the ice and he became the first European player to be named captain of a North American pro team when he succeeded Danny Johnson prior to the 1975-1976 season. He was a member of all three AVCO Cup championship teams and a three-time All-Star. Sjoberg was named the WHA's top defenseman in 1977-1978 and though he missed most of the 1978-1979 season due to an Achilles tendon injury, he returned in time for the playoffs and was the difference in bringing a third AVCO Cup to Winnipeg. After his playing career, he worked as a scout for the New York Rangers before his death in October 1987.

Scoring Statistics

Regular Season

<u>Season</u>	<u>GP</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>PIM</u>	<u>+/-</u>	<u>PP</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>Shots</u>
1974-1975	75	7	53	60	30	43	0	1	123
1975-1976	81	5	36	41	12	46	1	0	120
1976-1977	52	2	38	40	31	9	1	1	77
1977-1978	78	11	39	50	72	60	0	1	133
1978-1979	9	0	3	3	2	-1	0	0	15
1979-1980	79	7	27	34	48	-33	3	1	145
Totals	374	32	196	228	195		5	4	613

Playoffs

<u>Season</u>	<u>GP</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>PIM</u>	<u>+/-</u>	<u>PP</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>Shots</u>
1975-1976	13	0	5	5	12	7	0	0	
1976-1977	20	0	6	6	22	11	0	0	
1977-1978	9	0	9	9	4	8	0	0	
1978-1979	10	1	2	3	4	7			
Totals	52	1	22	23	42		0	0	0