



CAPITOL CITY SPEAKERS BUREAU

We help you thrill your audience!



Joe Morgan

Travels from: Ohio

Fee Range: \$20,001 - \$40,000

Joe Morgan was a standout at Castlemont High School before being signed by the Houston Colt .45's as an amateur free agent in 1962. Joe played for the Houston Astros, Cincinnati Reds, San Francisco Giants, Philadelphia Phillies and Oakland Athletics from 1963 to 1984. He won two World Series championships with the Reds in 1975 and 1976 and was also named the National League MVP in those years. Considered one of the greatest second basemen of all-time, Morgan was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1990. He became a baseball broadcaster for ESPN after his retirement as a player and is currently a member of the Cincinnati Reds front office.

Although Morgan played with distinction for Houston, the Astros wanted more power in their lineup. As a result they traded Morgan to the Cincinnati Reds as part of a blockbuster multi-player deal on November 29, 1971. While the Astros got power-hitting Lee May, the deal is now considered one of the most one-sided trades in baseball history. The deal facilitated a shift in Reds team philosophy towards speed over power, with Morgan and outfielder Pete Rose now two key figures batting back-to-back. Morgan added unusual home run power (at that time) for a second baseman to outstanding speed on the base paths and excellent defense.

After joining The Big Red Machine, Morgan's career reached a new level. This included eight consecutive All-Star Game appearances (1972-1979) to go along with his 1966 and 1970 appearances with Houston. Morgan, along with teammates Pete Rose, Johnny Bench, Tony Perez, and Dave Concepcion, led the Reds to consecutive championships in the World Series. Morgan drove in the winning run in Game 7 of the 1975 World Series, now ranked as one of the greatest World Series of all time. He was the first second baseman in the history of the National League to win the MVP back to back (1975,1976).

A 10 time All-Star, Morgan retired with 2,571 hits and 1,133 RBI's. While his lifetime average was .271, he hit between .288 and .327 during his peak years with the Reds. Additionally, he drew many walks, resulting in an excellent .392 on-base percentage. He also hit 268 home runs to go with 449 doubles and 96 triples, excellent power for a middle infielder of his era, and was considered by some the finest base stealer of his generation (689 steals at greater than 80% success rate). Besides his prowess at the plate and on the bases, Morgan was an exceptional infielder, winning the Gold Glove Award in consecutive years from 1972 to 1976. After his career ended, he was inducted into the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame in 1987, and his jersey number 8 was retired. He was honored by the Reds by throwing out the 1st pitch at the Reds first spring training game at Goodyear Ballpark (in Arizona) on March 5, 2010.

In 1980, Morgan returned to Houston to help the young Astros win the NL West. Morgan went to the San Francisco Giants for the next two seasons. His home run in the last game of the 1982 season eliminated the Dodgers from the division race. He won the 1982 Willie Mac Award for his spirit and leadership. He then went to the Phillies, where he rejoined ex-teammates Pete Rose and Tony Pérez. After losing to the Baltimore Orioles in the World Series, Morgan finished his career with the Oakland Athletics.



CAPITOL CITY SPEAKERS BUREAU

We help you thrill your audience!

Joe Morgan continued

Morgan started his broadcasting career in 1985 for the Cincinnati Reds. A year later, Morgan started a nine year stint as an announcer for the San Francisco Giants. From 1988 to 1989, Morgan served as an announcer for ABC, where he helped announce Monday Night and Thursday Night Baseball games. From 1994 to 2000, Morgan teamed with Bob Costas and (until 1997) Bob Uecker to call baseball games on NBC (and in association with The Baseball Network from 1994 to 1995). During this period, Morgan helped call three World Series (1995, 1997, and 1999) and four All-Star Games (1994, 1996, 1998, and 2000).

Morgan was a member of ESPN's lead baseball broadcast team alongside Jon Miller and Orel Hershiser. Besides teaming with Miller for Sunday Night Baseball telecasts, Morgan has also teamed with Miller for League Championship Series and World Series broadcasts on ESPN radio. Morgan's last year of work for ESPN was 2010. That same year, he returned to the Reds in the role of "special advisor to baseball operations." Morgan works in both the baseball side and community outreach side for the Reds.

In 2011, Morgan began a daily, one-hour general-sports-talk radio program. "While I'm best known for baseball, I've always had a love of all sports," Morgan said in a statement. "With my new show, I am looking forward to sharing these stories, as well as speaking with today's sports personalities and newsmakers," Morgan concluded. Morgan currently serves as a member of the board of the Baseball Assistance Team, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to helping former Major League, Minor League, and Negro League players through financial and medical hardships. Additionally, in 2010 Morgan opened Joe Morgan Honda in Monroe, Ohio.