Gossage Has Special Place for Early White Sox Days

By Paul Ladewski

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Rich (Goose) Gossage spent five of his 22 major league seasons in a White Sox uniform, and in many respects, they were the most important ones.

So when the Chicago Baseball Museum invited him to be a part of its tribute to the 1972 White Sox team, the Colorado Springs, Colo., resident didn't hide his emotions.

“I spent only a part of career in Chicago, but I'll never forget my time in a White Sox uniform,” said Gossage, the only Hall of Fame member on the '72 club. “That's where I matured as a person and a major league pitcher.”

Gossage was thrilled to hear that Dick Allen planned to be at the June celebration as well. At his Hall of Fame induction, he referred to Allen as “the greatest player I ever played with.”

“Dick taught me a lot from a hitter's perspective, things like how important it was to pitch inside,” Gossage said. “It will be great to see him again.”