

National Hockey League

Paul Terbenche



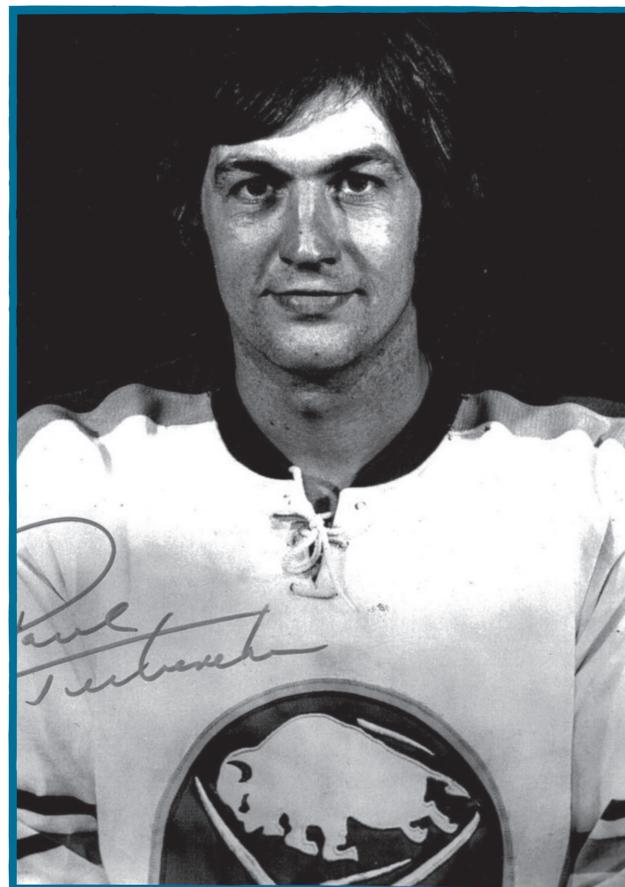
You Don't Have to be Big!

Paul Terbenche was one of **an impressive number of professional hockey players to come from Port Hope**. Like most of the others, he played his early hockey in the area, but unlike most of them **he played for two major professional hockey leagues**, the World Hockey Association (WHA) and the National Hockey League (NHL).

In 1963-64 Terbenche played defence for the Junior "B" *Ingersoll Marlands*, and the next two years for the Junior "A" *St. Catharines Black Hawks*. In 1966 he moved up to the *St. Louis Braves* of the Central Pro League.

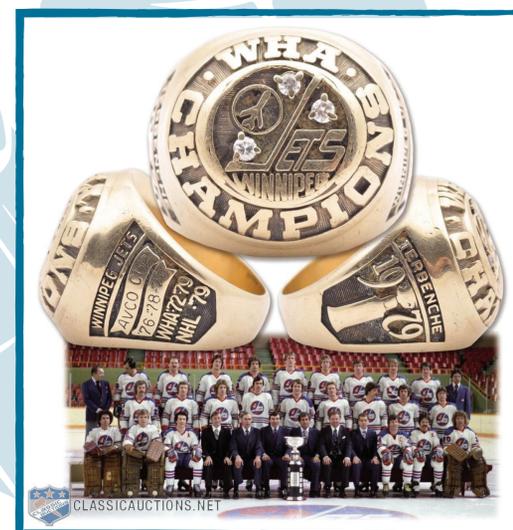
His introduction to the big stage came in the 1967-68 season when he played 68 games with the *Chicago Black Hawks*, only to be back in the minors for the next two seasons. His small stature, standing just 5'10" and weighing 170 pounds, will have been a factor.

In 1970 the *Buffalo Sabres* claimed Terbenche in the expansion draft, but he served mostly in the minors until 1972. From **1972 to 1974 he played 109 games with the Sabres** before he made the move to the ***Vancouver Blazers* in the rival World Hockey Association**.



The WHA was formed to challenge the monopoly of the NHL and began play in 1972 with twelve teams. At that time sixty-seven players jumped from the NHL to the WHA, led by star forward Bobby Hull.

Terbenche played for **five different WHA teams**, including the *Vancouver Blazers*, *Calgary Cowboys*, *Birmingham Bulls*, *Houston Aeros* and finally, in 1979, with the ***Winnipeg Jets*, winners of the Avco World Trophy**.



Terbenche's statistics in the two professional leagues combined include: 504 games, 123 points and 112 penalty minutes.

After his playing career, Paul moved back to Cobourg, taking a position at Brookside Youth Centre, where he worked for 25 years. He passed away on January 9, 2012.