

# What Makes the **GREAT TEAMMATES** Great

## *Quick Notes on Don Yaeger's Teammates Keynote*



**GREAT TEAMMATE**  
David Ross became **INVALUABLE**  
without being **MOST VALUABLE**

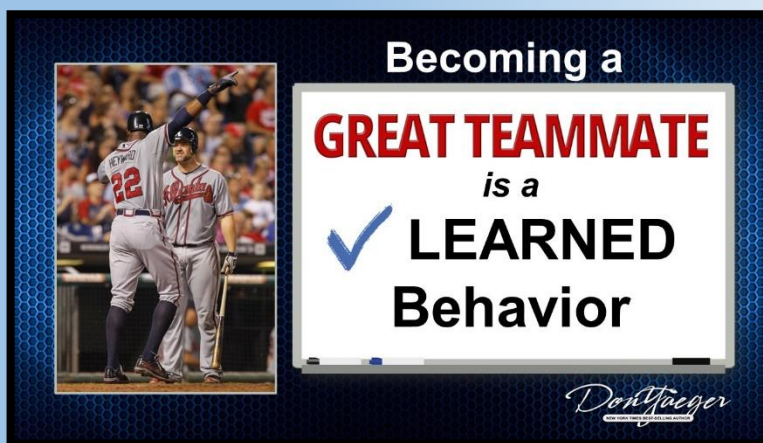
**Championship Level MVPs are always surrounded by Great Teammates**

The Great Teammates are less concerned about accolades and individual awards than they are with overall team success.

Chicago Cubs World Series champion catcher David Ross made himself invaluable without needing to be the most valuable.

**Becoming a Great Teammate is a LEARNED Behavior**

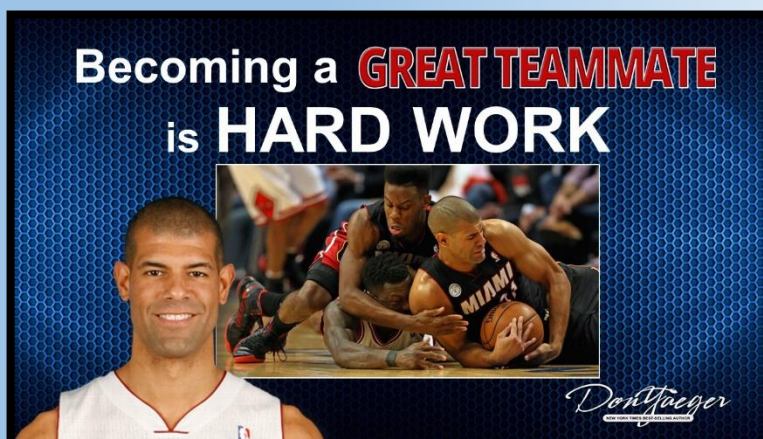
David Ross wanted to change his reputation from a "Me" first player to a "We" first player. While in a reserve role with the Atlanta Braves, Ross became obsessed with learning what it took to become an ideal teammate. He grabbed a white board in the training room, and listed 16 traits / characteristics that he had observed were beneficial to the team. He then brought players in and evaluated them based on the criteria.



Becoming a  
**GREAT TEAMMATE**  
is a  
✓ **LEARNED**  
**Behavior**

**Becoming a Great Teammate is HARD WORK**

Shane Battier won an NCAA title with the Duke Blue Devils and then 2 NBA titles with the Miami Heat. However the skills that led to the MVP success he experienced at Duke didn't merit MVP results in his NBA career. Battier made it a point to work hard at adapting to what could best help the team. He became a great teammate by searching for whatever role he could to help others win.



Becoming a **GREAT TEAMMATE**  
is **HARD WORK**

# What Makes the **GREAT TEAMMATES** Great

## *Continued Notes on Don Yaeger's Teammates Keynote*

### **Becoming a Great Teammate is EVERYONE's Role**

Becoming a **GREAT TEAMMATE**  
is **EVERYONE's Role**



From Role Players to MVPs  
and also Management

Becky Hammon is the WNBA's 8<sup>th</sup> all-time leading scorer. She played 14 years and was hands down the best player on her team. Despite her MVP skillset, she also made it her duty to be a great teammate and make others better. 11 different players became All-Stars during the time they were teammates with Hammon. She proved that star players & role players alike should embrace the challenge of being a great teammate.

### **We must CELEBRATE Great Teammates**

We must **CELEBRATE**  
our **GREAT TEAMMATES**



David Ross was a backup catcher for 13 of his 15 seasons in Major League Baseball. Playing in his final season, he could've easily lost interest, but he remained fully engaged throughout the year, being "the Glue" the Chicago Cubs needed to break a 108 year championship drought. Chicago's All-Star players picked Ross on their shoulders and carried him off the celebrating how much he meant to the overall team.

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- Humble** *They don't require the spotlight to feel important.*
- Fully Engaged** *They are "in" the moment at all times.*
- Encouraging** *They notice the success of others.*
- Respected** *They speak truth and hold people accountable.*
- Reliable** *Everyone knows what to expect from them.*
- Problem Solvers** *They don't point fingers.*
- Resourceful** *They share what they learn & embrace mentoring.*
- Willing to Sacrifice** *They are not above doing the dirty work.*
- Positive** *They look for the good in all situations.*
- Communicators** *They have the right words at the right time.*
- Relationship-Builders** *They build camaraderie with "all" team members.*
- Honest** *Their motives are trusted as "team-first".*
- Hard Workers** *They have an incredible work ethic.*
- Always Ready** *They remain available to step up in the clutch.*
- Competitors** *They feel winning requires maximum effort.*
- Fun** *Others want to be around them.*