

# Tommy Hurricane Jackson

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**Tommy "Hurricane" Jackson** (August 9 1931 - February 14 1982) was a professional boxer from 1951 to 1961. In July 1957, he fought Floyd Patterson for the heavyweight championship. Jackson was noted for his stamina and unorthodox style as a fighter. He was trained and managed by Whitey Bimstein.

While Jackson never won the heavyweight title, he defeated some notable heavyweights, including former champion Ezzard Charles, whom Jackson beat twice in 1955. In February 1956, he was ranked behind bulky Bob Baker & Nino Valdez for the heavyweight championship title.

He fought two bouts with Floyd Patterson. In June 1956, he and Patterson fought in an elimination fight to see who would fight for the heavyweight championship left vacant by Rocky Marciano's retirement. Jackson lost a very close twelve-round split decision, bout should have been drawn. Patterson didnt feel he won. In July 1957, Jackson fought Patterson again, this time for the heavyweight championship held by Patterson. Jackson lost in the tenth round by referee's decision. He fought on with limited success and had his final bout in 1960. After a few exhibition bouts in 1961, he retired.

In his later life he worked shining shoes and as a taxi driver. While driving his cab in late 1981, he was hit by a car and was critically injured. He eventually died from injuries in 1982 in New York City.

Jackson was famous for bravery in the ring and at times taking much punishment. At one stage his license was suspended to help his recovery.

His overall career record was 35 wins (with 16 knockouts), nine losses and one draw.

## External Link:

Hurricane Jackson's obituary

(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210622094843/http://www.nytimes.com/1982/02/15/obituaries/hurricane-jackson-heavyweight-beaten-in-1957-title-bout.html>)

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