

The New York Times, Friday, June 28th, 1934

MONTFORD CROSS, EX-ATHLETE, DEAD

Rose From Philadelphia Sandlot Baseball to That City's Major League Teams.

WON NOTE AS SHORTSTOP

Friend for Years of Connie Mack—More Recently Was Clothing Salesman.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, June 21.—Montford (Monte) Cross, one-time famous shortstop for the Phillies and Athletics, died suddenly today of a heart attack in his apartment here. He was 63 years old.

Mr. Cross had just returned from Washington, where he had attended the wedding of his old manager's son, Cornellus McGillicuddy Jr., and Miss Susan Sheppard, daughter of Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas. Mr. Cross and Connie Mack had been close friends for years. His widow and two children, Howard Cross and Mrs. A. M. Quimby, survive.

In recent years Mr. Cross had worked as a clothing salesman in the Gimbel Brothers Stores. In the intervals between his frequent visits to Shibe Park he had managed to achieve a reputation as a bowler.

Mr. Cross was a brilliant fielding shortstop and while never a hard hitter usually came through in a pinch. He played with Baltimore and with Pittsburgh, St. Louis and the Phillies in the National League, finally jumping to the then outlaw American League at the turn of the century.

As a member of Connie Mack's champion Athletics of 1902 and 1905 Monte Cross was rated by many as the greatest shortstop in the game. When he retired from active playing in 1908 to become manager of the Kansas City team he was honored at a testimonial dinner by his Philadelphia admirers.

After leaving his post in Kansas City Mr. Cross umpired in independent, school and college games and then entered the Federal League, which battled the majors for two years before disbanding.

Mr. Cross was a native of Philadelphia. He started in sandlot baseball with the Solar Tops at Thirteenth and Cherry Streets and went on to the big leagues. He was a graduate of Central High School here.