Humble Beginnings: Diego Armando Maradona was born on October 30, 1960, in Lanús, Buenos Aires, Argentina. He grew up in Villa Fiorito, a shantytown on the southern outskirts of Buenos Aires, where he was spotted by a talent scout while playing in his neighborhood club, Estrella Roja.

Early Professional Career: Maradona made his professional debut for Argentinos Juniors just before his 16th birthday. He played for the club for five years, from 1976 to 1981, scoring 115 goals in 167 appearances before transferring to Boca Juniors, where he won his first Argentine Primera División championship.

The ‘Hand of God’ and the ‘Goal of the Century’: At the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, Maradona scored both infamous goals against England in the quarter-finals. The first was the controversial "Hand of God" goal, where he punched the ball into the net. Minutes later, he scored what would be known as the "Goal of the Century," dribbling past five England players to score. Argentina went on to win the World Cup that year.

Troubled Times in Italy: Maradona transferred to Napoli in 1984 and helped the club win its first-ever Serie A Italian Championship in 1987, followed by another in 1990. Despite his success, his time in Naples was marred by controversies, including his struggle with cocaine addiction and connections with the Camorra, a Neapolitan mafia.

1994 World Cup Scandal: Maradona’s international career ended abruptly at the 1994 World Cup in the United States. He played only two games before being sent home after failing a drug test for ephedrine doping.

Achievements and Accolades: In his club career, Maradona scored 259 goals in 491 matches. Besides the World Cup, he won numerous individual awards, including the FIFA World Cup Golden Ball for the best player in 1986 and the FIFA Player of the 20th Century award (which he shared with Pelé).

Coaching Career: Post-retirement, Maradona’s career as a coach included stints with the Argentine national team, leading them in the 2010 World Cup, as well as managing clubs in the UAE and Mexico.

Cultural Impact: Maradona became a cultural icon in Argentina and Naples, where he is almost worshipped. In Naples, murals and shrines are dedicated to him, and in Argentina, fans founded the Iglesia Maradoniana (Church of Maradona) to honor him.

Documentaries and Films: His life and career have been the subject of multiple documentaries and films, including the 2019 documentary "Diego Maradona," directed by Asif Kapadia, which highlights his time at Napoli and the complexities of his life and career.

Untimely Death and Legacy: Maradona passed away on November 25, 2020, at the age of 60, due to a heart attack. His death was mourned worldwide, and in Argentina, three days of national mourning were declared. Maradona’s legacy is complex—while his life was fraught with controversies, his impact on the game of soccer and his extraordinary talent on the field are undisputed.