

# Newburgh's Mickey Scott, 1st mid-Hudson baseball player ever drafted, dies at age 64

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On Sunday at about noon, Mickey Scott called his mom, Army, in Newburgh to tell her he was going outside to rake leaves. It was the last time Mickey Scott would talk to anyone in his tight-knit family.

Scott, believed to be the first mid-Hudson high school baseball player ever drafted, died outside his home on Sunday in Binghamton. He was 64.

The Yankees took Scott, a left-handed pitcher, out of Newburgh Free Academy in the 17th round of the 1965 draft.

Scott's sister, June Valentino, who lives in Newburgh, said she believes her brother died of a heart attack or stroke. She said he went to the gym regularly.

"It's a shock. I guess two women found him hunched over in a chair in the afternoon and called 911," Valentino said. "How do you deal with it? Mickey was a super, super guy. Everyone liked him. He was fun-loving. Mickey was a hell raiser, but everyone had good things to say about him."

Valentino said services for Scott will be held later this week in Binghamton.

Scott pitched out of the bullpen for three major-league teams – Baltimore, Montreal and the California Angels – from 1972-77. He appeared in 133 career games, retiring with an 8-7 record and a 3.72 ERA.

Scott went on to work for the Yankees in different capacities, including a batting practice pitcher, Valentino said. In Binghamton, Scott formerly owned his own bar, Mickey's Mound. It was frequented by former Yankees manager Billy Martin.

"I remember the first time Mickey pitched at Yankee Stadium," Valentino said. "I had to stay home and baby sit our brother, but it was still a thrill to see him. Growing up, we thought it was a pain, going to all of Mickey's games. But we are all so proud of him."