

= Adam DeBus =

Adam Joseph DeBus , Jr . (October 7 , 1892 ? May 13 , 1977) was a German American professional baseball player whose career spanned three seasons , one of which was spent with the Major League Baseball (MLB) Pittsburgh Pirates (1917) . Over his MLB career , DeBus , an infielder , compiled a .229 batting average with nine runs scored , 30 hits , five doubles , four triples , seven runs batted in (RBIs) and two stolen bases in 38 games played . Originally , Debus signed with the MLB St. Louis Cardinals out of the Northern League , but his contract was waived after never making an appearance . He then signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates and made his MLB debut on July 14 , 1917 against the Brooklyn Robins . During his career , DeBus weighed 150 pounds (68 kg) and stood at 5 feet 11 inches (180 cm) . He batted and threw right @-@ handed .

= = Early life = =

Adam Joseph DeBus , Jr. was born on October 7 , 1892 in Chicago to Josephine and Adam DeBus , Sr. , both of Germany . Josephine DeBus , who came to the United States in 1882 , became a naturalized citizen in 1931 . Adam DeBus , Sr. , who came to the United States in 1878 and was naturalized in 1887 , worked as a cook in Chicago . Adam Joseph DeBus , Jr. was his parent 's only child . He was raised to speak German .

= = Baseball career = =

DeBus ' professional baseball career began in 1914 as a member of the minor league Green Bay Bays of the Class @-@ C Wisconsin ? Illinois League . He was under the management of Robert Lynch with the Green Bay club . Two of Debus ' teammates on the Bays roster , Frank Scanlan and Joe Weiss , had experience in Major League Baseball (MLB) one time or another over their careers . On the season , DeBus compiled a .234 batting average with 91 hits , 14 doubles , three triples and three home runs in 108 games played . All of his 108 games were played at shortstop . His next professional baseball season came two seasons later in 1916 as a member of the minor league Fargo @-@ Moorhead Graingrowers of the Class @-@ C Northern League . The Graingrowers represented Fargo , North Dakota and Moorhead , Minnesota . Three of his teammates on the Graingrowers , Ralph Bell , Moxie Meixell and Bob Unglaub , were MLB players at one time in their careers . The Fargo @-@ Moorhead club was managed by Bob Unglaub , who also played first base for the team . DeBus batted .284 with 96 hits in 100 games played .

In 1917 , DeBus re @-@ signed with the Fargo @-@ Moorhead Graingrowers . On July 2 , he was sold by the Fargo @-@ Moorhead club to the MLB St. Louis Cardinals . On July 11 , DeBus was waived after never making an appearance with the club . He was then signed by the Pittsburgh Pirates and reported to the team in Brooklyn , New York . He made his MLB debut in the second game of a doubleheader on July 14 , 1917 against the Brooklyn Robins at Ebbets Field . He was sixth in the Pirates batting order . In four at @-@ bats against Brooklyn pitcher Rube Marquard , DeBus went hitless . His first MLB hit came on July 17 against Boston Braves pitcher Art Nehf . On July 20 , The Pittsburgh Press wrote that DeBus was a " better than ordinary hitter " and that he could " field with the best of them " . In August , it was reported that Pittsburgh manager Hugo Bezdek was pleased with the services of DeBus . The syndicated column " Diamond Dust " compared DeBus to former MLB player Art Devlin . His final MLB appearance came on September 1 against the St. Louis Cardinals . In two at @-@ bats against St. Louis pitcher Oscar Horstmann , DeBus went hitless . On the season with the Pirates , he batted .229 with nine runs scored , 30 hits , five doubles , four triples , seven runs batted in (RBIs) and two stolen bases in 38 games played . Defensively , he played 21 games at shortstop and 18 games at third base . DeBus committed 19 errors , 92 assists and 61 putouts . He also converted 10 double plays . Despite initial success in impressing Pirates manager Hugo Bezdek , by the end of the season The Pittsburgh Press wrote that DeBus " [had] probably donned a Pirate uniform for the last time " .

= = Later life = =

At the end of the 1917 baseball season , DeBus joined the United States Military to fight in World War I. He served with the 86th Infantry Division , and played with the division 's baseball team . After his baseball career was over , he was working for an electrical company based in Chicago . By 1930 , he was living with his parents in Chicago working as an electrical auto mechanic . On August 1 , 1931 , DeBus and his mother boarded the ocean liner SS Bremen in New York City to Germany . By 1942 , DeBus was working for Stewart @-@ Warner , a manufacturer of electrical automotive parts . DeBus died on May 13 , 1977 in Chicago . He was buried at St. Boniface Cemetery in Chicago .