

= Dick Padden =

Richard Joseph " Dick " Padden (September 17 , 1870 ? October 31 , 1922) , nicknamed " Brains " , was an American professional baseball player , born in Wheeling , West Virginia , who played mainly as a second baseman in Major League Baseball for nine seasons from 1896 to 1905 .

After playing a season and a half in the minor leagues , the right @-@ handed infielder began his major league career for the Pittsburgh Pirates . He played three seasons in Pittsburgh , from 1896 to 1898 , before playing one season for the Washington Senators in 1899 . He returned to the minor leagues for the 1900 season , where he was the player @-@ manager for the Chicago White Sox , then a minor league team . When the Chicago club entered the American League , a major league , the following season , he moved on to play one season for the St. Louis Cardinals , before becoming Captain of the St. Louis Browns from 1902 and 1905 . In total , Padden played in 874 games , and collected 814 hits in 3545 at bats , for a lifetime batting average of .258 . He finished in the league 's top @-@ ten finishers in being hit by pitches six times , including a league @-@ leading 18 in 1904 .

Padden 's post @-@ career activities included duties as a talent scout for the St. Louis Browns and the Washington Senators , as well a lengthy career in the flint glass industry in Ohio . After retiring , he attempted to gain the Democratic Party nomination for the 1912 mayoral race in his hometown of Martin 's Ferry , Ohio . He died there , in 1922 , at the age of 52 of apoplexy .

= = Career = =

= = = Pittsburgh = = =

Padden began his professional career with the Roanoke Magicians , a minor league club in the Virginia State League in 1895 , where he played with and managed the team to a 52 ? 74 win ? loss record . During the 1896 season , the Pittsburgh Pirates manager , Connie Mack , was seeking a replacement for Harry Truby , his second baseman , who was not performing well , when Padden caught his attention . Padden was playing for the Toronto Canadiens in the Eastern League , and had a reputation of being a smart and quick player with good instincts , as well as a " careful , timely batsman " . Based on his need to upgrade his second base position , and Padden 's good reputation , Mack traded Truby for him . He began his major league career shortly thereafter on July 15 , one day after Truby 's final game in the majors . When Padden did not bat well to start the season , Mack and Pittsburgh 's president and part owner , William Kerr , began to feud over the decision , with Kerr questioning Mack over whether they should have traded Truby . However , his hitting improved and he completed the season with a .242 batting average in 61 games played .

In 1897 , with the Pirates , he led all National League second basemen with 134 games played , and 369 putouts . Besides games played , he established career highs in several batting categories that season , including ; 517 at bats , 84 runs scored , 146 hits , 10 triples , and tied his career high in home runs with two . He made 128 appearances in 1898 , again as their starting second baseman . His statistical output dropped from his previous season ; his batting average lowered to .257 , and scored 61 runs in 463 at bats .

= = = Washington = = =

On December 14 , 1898 , after the season was completed , Padden was traded , along with Jack O 'Brien and Jimmy Slagle , to the Washington Senators in exchange for Heinie Reitz . He played the 1899 season in Washington , and appeared in 134 games as their starting shortstop . He had a batting average of .277 , established his career high in stolen bases (27) , and was ejected from the game by the umpire three times , which led the league .

= = = Chicago = = =

Following the 1899 season , the Senators franchise ceased operations , which resulted in Padden 's sale , along with O 'Brien , to the Detroit Tigers of the American League , which was a minor league at the time . However , before the 1900 season began , he joined the Chicago White Sox , also a minor league team , as their player @-@ manager instead . On May 16 , he was involved in a physical altercation with Ducky Holmes and another Detroit player . While playing a doubleheader on September 16 , against Connie Mack and his Milwaukee team , Padden suggested to Mack that the second game be shortened to five innings due to the fact that the first game lasted just over three hours , and they might not finish the second game before darkness . Mack , who estimated that he could get five more good innings from his game one starting pitcher , Rube Waddell , quickly agreed . Padden 's suggestion backfired , and turned into a successful strategy for Mack , whose team , with Waddell pitching , won the game . Despite that incident , Padden and his leadership skills led the White Sox to the American League championship that season .

= = = St. Louis = = =

The White Sox stayed with the American League as they became a major league in 1901 , but Padden moved on to play for the St. Louis Cardinals of the National League . He was the team 's starting second baseman , and played in a total of 123 games . He had a batting average of .256 that season , and again led the league in ejections , with five ; however , he stole 26 bases , he had 62 RBIs , his highest single season total .

After his lone season with the Cardinals , Padden , along with many of his teammates deserted to the newly created St. Louis Browns franchise , which was scheduled to begin playing in 1902 in the American League . Padden was Captain of the Browns during his time on the team . In both 1902 and 1904 , he was the Browns ' starting second baseman , and were the only two of his four seasons with the club in which he played in more than 29 games . He led the league in hit by a pitches with 18 in 1904 , the only time in which he led the league in this category , although he did finish in the league 's top @-@ ten five times previously . On May 19 , 1905 , after 16 games , Padden was released by the Browns , and his major league career came to an end .

= = Post @-@ major league career = =

Padden was the player @-@ manager for the minor league team St. Paul Saints of the American Association for the 1906 season . He had a batting average of .288 that year , and hit three home runs . He stayed with the Saints for the 1907 season , but as a player only . After 52 games played , his season ended when he sprained his ankle . After his injury , he and his Saints manager , Mr. Ashenbach attempted to buy the Daytona team of the Eastern League , but were unsuccessful . He had hoped that his ankle would heal , so that he could be ready for the next season , but he never appeared as a player after the injury .

Following his retirement as a player , Padden returned to his old team and became a talent scout for the Browns in 1909 . He also became a talent scout for the Senators and worked in the flint glass industry in Ohio . Alfred Henry Spink described him as " one of the real foxy fellows of the baseball world . He could field beautifully and was never better than when being hard driven . " Padden retired to Martins Ferry , Ohio where in 1912 , he tried to secure the Democratic Party nomination for the mayoral race . He died in Martins Ferry of apoplexy on October 31 , 1922 at the age of 52 , and is interred at St. Marys Cemetery .