

= Frank McGee (ice hockey) =

Francis Clarence McGee , (November 4 , 1882 ? September 16 , 1916) was an ice hockey player during the early days of hockey for the Ottawa Hockey Club , nicknamed the Silver Seven . Though blind in one eye , McGee was a legendary player of his era , and known as a prolific scorer . He once scored 14 goals in a Stanley Cup game and eight times scored five or more . Despite a brief senior career ? only 45 games over four seasons ? he led the Silver Seven in its reign as Stanley Cup champions during this time (1903 ? 06) , playing both centre and rover . During World War I , he enlisted in the Canadian Army and died in battle in France . When the Hockey Hall of Fame was founded in 1945 , McGee was one of the original nine inductees .

= = Personal life = =

Frank McGee came from a prominent Canadian family . His late uncle , Thomas D 'Arcy McGee , had been a Father of Confederation . His father , John Joseph McGee , was clerk of the Privy Council (considered the top civil servant position) . Frank was one of nine children born to John Joseph McGee and Elizabeth Crotty . Frank had five brothers and three sisters , Thomas D 'Arcy , Jim , John , Walter , Charles , Katharine , Mary and Lillian . His brother Jim was also a noted athlete in football and ice hockey before dying in a horse @-@ riding accident in May 1904 . Charles , like Frank , also died in World War I.

After his education in Ottawa , McGee worked for the Canadian government Department of Indian Affairs , but he had a passion for sports and played lacrosse and rugby and excelled at ice hockey . While playing half @-@ back for his rugby team , Ottawa City , he was a member of the team that won the Canadian championship in 1898 . He played for the Ottawa Hockey Club from 1902 until 1906 .

He enlisted in the military and fought in World War I for the 43rd Regiment (Duke of Cornwall ? s Own Rifles) as a lieutenant in the 21st Infantry Battalion , starting in May 1915 . That December he suffered a knee injury , and was sent to England to recover . He was given the choice of a posting in Le Havre away from the action , but chose to return to his battalion at the front . He returned to the 21st Battalion in August 1916 for the Battle of the Somme and was killed in action on September 16 , 1916 near Courcellette , France . His body was never recovered . His brother Charles died in action in May 1915 .

It is not known how McGee was allowed into the army with sight in only one eye . In his certificate of examination , the medical officer wrote that McGee could " see the required distance with either eye . " According to McGee 's nephew , Frank Charles McGee , his uncle tricked the doctor . When he was asked to cover one eye and read the chart he covered his blind eye , and when required to cover the other eye he switched hands instead of eyes . His medical history only lists " good " for his vision .

= = Hockey career = =

On March 21 , 1900 , the young and promising McGee lost use of an eye during an amateur game for a local Canadian Pacific Railway team from a " lifted puck . " He retired from playing , becoming a referee . By 1903 , he missed playing the sport so much that he joined the Ottawas despite the risk of permanent blindness . McGee was the youngest member of the team and stood only five feet six inches tall in a brutal sport ; regardless , he excelled .

McGee was considered an outstanding playmaker and deadly scorer . He scored two goals in his first game with Ottawa . On a number of occasions , he scored several goals in a single game , the most famous being his 14 @-@ goal effort in a 23 @-@ 2 victory over the team from Dawson City , on January 16 , 1905 . Those 14 goals , which included eight consecutive goals scored in less than nine minutes , remain to this day the most goals scored by a single player in a Stanley Cup hockey game , and has not been surpassed in any professional match . It was the most lopsided playoff game in Stanley Cup history . He scored five or more goals in eight other senior matches ; his

highest single @-@ game total in regular season play was eight on March 3 , 1906 against the Montreal Hockey Club .

His linemates included future Hall of Famers Alf Smith , Harry Westwick , Billy Gilmour and Tommy Smith . Frank Patrick , a contemporary of McGee 's and like him a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame , described McGee : " He was even better than they say he was . He had everything - speed , stickhandling , scoring ability and was a punishing checker . He was strongly built but beautifully proportioned and he had an almost animal rhythm . "

After Ottawa lost the Stanley Cup to the Montreal Wanderers in 1906 , McGee retired at just 23 years old . His retirement is attributed to his government position not allowing him to travel . He had briefly retired after his brother Jim 's death in 1904 . McGee retired after scoring 135 goals in only 45 games (both league and challenge) . Only Russell Bowie rivals his average of 3 goals per game .

McGee was one of the original players inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame at its founding in 1945 . Five years later , a poll of sports editors of Canadian newspapers selected the Silver Seven as the country 's outstanding team in the first half of the 20th century . In 1966 , he was inducted into the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season and playoffs = = =

= = Records = =

Stanley Cup Finals records

Most goals in playoffs : 63 in 22 playoff games

Most goals in one playoff series : 15 in two games in 1905 at Ottawa versus Dawson City .

Most goals , one playoff game : 14 , January 16 , 1905 at Ottawa versus Dawson City .

Source : Diamond (2000) , p . 91