

= Bill Mosienko =

William Mosienko (November 2 , 1921 ? July 9 , 1994) was a Ukrainian Canadian professional ice hockey right winger who played 14 seasons in the National Hockey League (NHL) for the Chicago Black Hawks . He is best noted for recording the fastest hat trick in NHL history . In a 1952 game against the New York Rangers , Mosienko scored three goals in 21 seconds .

In the NHL , Mosienko won the Lady Byng Memorial Trophy in 1945 as the most gentlemanly player in the league , played in five All @-@ Star Games and was twice named to the second All @-@ Star Team . He left the league in 1955 to help bring professional hockey to his hometown of Winnipeg . He helped create the Winnipeg Warriors of the Western Hockey League and was a three @-@ time All @-@ Star in his four years of play in the league . He won the league championship in 1956 .

Mosienko was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1965 and into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in 1980 .

= = Early life = =

Mosienko was born on November 2 , 1921 in Winnipeg , Manitoba . He was one of 14 children , having nine brothers and four sisters . His father was a Ukrainian immigrant and worked as a boilermaker with the Canadian Pacific Railway . Mosienko grew up in Winnipeg 's north end .

He developed a passion for hockey and began playing at the age of 10 with the Tobans and later Sherburn athletic clubs . At 17 , he sought to try out with the St. James Canadians junior team in 1939 and after being told he was too young , instead joined the Winnipeg Monarchs .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Chicago Blackhawks = = =

Chicago Black Hawks player Joe Cooper discovered Mosienko playing on outdoor rinks in Winnipeg and recommended that Hawks management sign him . Mosienko signed with Chicago at the age of 18 and was assigned to their minor league team , the Kansas City Americans . In his first two seasons , he split time between the Americans , the Providence Reds and the Black Hawks . The Black Hawks first recalled Mosienko in 1942 , replacing players who had left to fight World War II . He scored his first two NHL goals on February 9 , 1942 , 21 seconds apart .

Exempted from military service for medical reasons likely related to his small size , Mosienko was unable to cross into the United States as a result of travel restrictions and played the 1942 ? 43 season primarily with the Quebec Aces of the Quebec Senior Hockey League . He appeared in two games when the Hawks traveled to Toronto . He finally established himself as an NHL regular in 1943 ? 44 and scored a career high 70 points . Mosienko and his linemates Clint Smith and Doug Bentley combined to score 219 points , at that time an NHL record . His 70 points set a team rookie record that stood for 37 years until broken by Denis Savard in 1980 ? 81 .

In 1944 ? 45 , Mosienko finished sixth in league scoring with 54 points and did not record a single penalty minute throughout the course of the season . He was awarded the Lady Byng Memorial Trophy as the NHL 's most gentlemanly player and named a Second @-@ Team All @-@ Star . He was also voted the most popular player on the team by its fans .

The following season , Chicago coach Johnny Gottselig paired Mosienko with the Bentley brothers : Max and Doug . The trio formed what came to be known as the " Pony Line " due to their speed and small size and emerged as one of the top scoring trios in the NHL . Max Bentley led the league in scoring in 1945 ? 46 , and despite missing time with a knee injury , Mosienko finished sixth . He was again named a Second @-@ Team All @-@ Star . He played in the first National Hockey League All @-@ Star Game prior to the start of the 1947 ? 48 season , during which he suffered a broken leg and was initially feared lost for the year . He ultimately missed the first two months of play , while the Pony Line was broken up for good shortly after his injury when Max Bentley was traded to the

Toronto Maple Leafs .

Mosienko remained a key contributor to the Black Hawks offence , appearing in five All @-@ Star Games during his career . His most famous moment came on March 23 , 1952 , in a game against the New York Rangers on the final night of the regular season . He scored three goals in a 21 @-@ second span of the third period against New York 's Lorne Anderson to set a new record for the fastest hat @-@ trick by one player . Linemate Gus Bodnar assisted on all three goals , and he nearly had a fourth goal 45 seconds later on a shot that deflected off the goalpost . Mosienko 's feat remains an NHL record .

Due to his small size , Mosienko was a frequent target of physical abuse from larger opponents , and suffered numerous injuries as a result . Despite this , he refrained from retaliation and was well regarded across the league for his gentlemanly conduct . In 14 NHL seasons , he totaled only 121 penalty minutes and had just one fight .

= = = Winnipeg Warriors = = =

Mosienko left the NHL in 1955 and joined fellow player Alf Pike in bringing professional hockey back to Winnipeg . They established the Winnipeg Warriors of the Western Hockey League . He led the Warriors to the President 's Cup championship in the team 's first year of 1955 ? 56 and helped the Warriors defeat the Quebec Hockey League 's Quebec Aces for the Edinburgh Cup , Canada 's minor professional championship . He scored two goals in the deciding sixth game of a 3 ? 1 victory to capture the trophy . He was named to the WHL All @-@ Star Team three times : 1957 , 1958 and 1959 . Though he scored 88 points in the 1958 ? 59 season , Mosienko announced his retirement after 18 seasons of professional hockey . He coached the team for one season in 1959 ? 60 .

At the time of his retirement from the NHL , Mosienko was seventh all @-@ time in league scoring with 540 points . He was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1965 , and to the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in 1980 . Additionally , Mosienko is honoured by the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame and in 2000 was named to its provincial All @-@ Century First All @-@ Star Team .

= = Off the ice = =

Following his retirement , Mosienko and Joe Cooper operated a string of bowling alleys in Winnipeg , one of which continues to be operated by his family . He was a supporter of Winnipeg minor hockey and Manitoba oldtimers associations . There is an arena named in Mosienko 's honor in his hometown of Winnipeg .

Mosienko died of cancer in Winnipeg in 1994 at the age of 72 . He had a wife , Wanda , two sons and one daughter . His grandson , Tyler , is also a professional hockey player . The younger Mosienko remembers his grandfather as a humble man who would join him on the family 's backyard rink when he was learning to skate as a child .

= = Career statistics = =

= = Awards and honours = =