

= Gordon Roberts ( ice hockey ) =

Gordon William " Doc " Roberts ( September 5 , 1891 ? September 1 , 1966 ) was a Canadian professional ice hockey forward who played for the Ottawa Hockey Club and Montreal Wanderers of the National Hockey Association ( NHA ) and the Vancouver Millionaires and Seattle Metropolitans of the Pacific Coast Hockey Association ( PCHA ) . He was a member of the Ottawa team that defended the Stanley Cup in a 1910 challenge ; Roberts scored seven goals in two games in his team 's victory over the Edmonton Hockey Club . He moved to Montreal in 1910 where he was consistently among the NHA 's leading scorers with the Wanderers while also studying medicine at McGill University .

While in Montreal , Roberts attended McGill University where he studied to become a physician . Following his graduation , he settled in British Columbia to begin his medical career . Continuing his hockey career , Roberts joined the Vancouver Millionaires where he was named a PCHA all @-@ star at left wing and led the league in scoring with 43 goals in 1916 ? 17 . He retired from hockey in 1918 following a season in Seattle before Vancouver lured him back to the game one year later . Roberts left the sport again in 1920 and his medical career ultimately took him to Oakland , California where he practiced for over 40 years . He was posthumously inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1971 .

= = Playing career = =

Roberts participated in several sports in his youth . In addition to hockey , he played lacrosse and football . Roberts focused on hockey , however , and played for several teams in his hometown of Ottawa . He was the leading scorer of the Ottawa City Hockey League in 1908 ? 09 as a member of the Emmitts Hockey Club with 19 goals in six games .

When he turned professional in 1909 by joining the Ottawa Hockey Club , Roberts was one of the youngest players in his league at the age of 18 years . He scored three goals with the team in a single game in the short @-@ lived Canadian Hockey Association before Ottawa jumped to the National Hockey Association ( NHA ) for the remainder of the season . In nine NHA games , Roberts recorded 13 goals . Ottawa was the defending Stanley Cup champions and , during the season , were challenged for the trophy by the Alberta champion Edmonton Hockey Club in January 1910 . The Ottawa Citizen described Roberts as being the star of the first game . The paper praised his defensive checking in addition to his four goals scored in an 8 ? 4 victory . He added three goals in the second game as Ottawa retained control of the Stanley Cup by a 21 ? 11 aggregate score .

Having enrolled at McGill University to study medicine , Roberts moved to Montreal . He continued to play hockey and lacrosse but could not play football as McGill was unable to have him certified as an amateur . Also ineligible to play collegiate hockey , he joined the Montreal Wanderers for the 1910 ? 11 NHA season . Roberts played only four NHA games that year , but thereafter was consistently one of the league 's leading scorers . Following a pair of 16 @-@ goal seasons , Roberts finished second in league scoring with 31 goals in 1913 ? 14 and with 29 in 1914 ? 15 . He was also named a league all @-@ star in 1914 .

Roberts found it difficult to both study and play hockey , but praised the support of his classmates and the faculty in helping him earn his degree . He had to complete an extra year of schooling after failing his second year , but graduated from McGill in 1916 . Following an 18 @-@ goal season in 1915 ? 16 , he left Montreal to take up practice in British Columbia . Roberts continued his hockey career and joined the Vancouver Millionaires of the Pacific Coast Hockey Association ( PCHA ) . He led the PCHA in scoring with 43 goals ? in 23 games ? and was named a league all @-@ star on left wing . His medical career took him to Seattle and as a result , he joined the Seattle Metropolitans for the 1917 ? 18 PCHA season . He retired in 1918 to focus on his medical career in the Howe Sound region of British Columbia , but was lured back to the PCHA by the Millionaires for the 1919 ? 20 season . He scored 16 goals in 22 games for Vancouver before permanently retiring from hockey .

= = Playing style = =

Roberts was considered by his contemporaries to be one of the greatest left wings in the sport 's history . His wrist shot , one of the most fearsome of the pre @-@ 1927 era , became the stuff of legend across the country , in both the PCHA and NHA . Roberts was sometimes described as being the inventor of the " curved shot " , preceding and outmatching players such as Harry Cameron , Babe Dye and Didier Pitre . Bernie Morris , and Hall of Famers Frank Foyston and Lester Patrick all attested to the unrivalled effectiveness and dramatic trajectory of Roberts ' shot . Clint Benedict , often considered the greatest goalie of the 1893 @-@ 1926 era also gave praise to Roberts ' accuracy coupled with his ability to curve the puck .

Roberts was noted for being able to get his shot off at very bad angles from close in , as well as drive it in from far outside the reach and typical positional range of defenceman .

Notwithstanding his shooting prowess , Roberts was also well regarded for his stamina and skating ability , as well as being an above @-@ average defensive checker . Despite being a physical player , Roberts ( like his contemporary Frank Nighbor ) was noted for his gentlemanly conduct on the ice ? which he may have used to protect himself from retaliation :

? Montreal boss George Kennedy told a story of a game against the Montreal Wanderers in which Pitre was being tripped and butt @-@ ended by rugged winger Gordon Roberts .

Kennedy screamed at Pitre , ? Are you afraid of Roberts ? ?

? No , sure not , ? was Pitre 's surprised response .

? Well , why don 't you hit him back ? ? Kennedy snapped .

? How can I hit back ? ? Pitre asked . ? Roberts , he is very polite , very nice . Each time I fall , he helps me get up and apologizes and says it is an accident ... can I hit a man who is apologizing to me ? No , never , it is not done . ? ' ?

= = Personal life = =

Born September 5 , 1891 , and raised in Ottawa , Roberts was the youngest of ten children ; he had eight brothers and a sister . His brother Laurie was also a doctor and athlete , while another brother , Eddie , fought and died in the First World War . Roberts returned east in 1922 where he did post @-@ graduate studies in New York . The Ottawa Senators , then of the National Hockey League , attempted to bring him out of retirement again and Cornell University sought his services as a lacrosse coach . Roberts turned down both offers and chose to retain focus on his medical career ; He moved to California where he taught for a time at Stanford University Hospital . By 1925 , he settled in Oakland where he practiced as an obstetrician for over 40 years . Roberts also acted as a referee at California Hockey League games . Roberts died September 1 , 1966 , and in 1971 was posthumously inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame .

= = Career statistics = =