

= Barney Gilligan =

Andrew Bernard " Barney " Gilligan (January 3 , 1856 ? April 1 , 1934) was a professional baseball player whose career spanned 12 seasons , 11 of which were spent with the Major League Baseball (MLB) Cleveland Blues (1879 ? 1880) , Providence Grays (1881 ? 1885) , Washington Nationals (1886 ? 1887) , and Detroit Wolverines (1888) . Gilligan , who predominately played as a catcher , also played as an outfielder and a shortstop . Over his career , Gilligan compiled a career batting average of .207 with 217 runs scored , 388 hits , 68 doubles , 23 triples , three home runs , and 167 runs batted in (RBI) in 523 games played . Although the majority of his career was spent in the major leagues , Gilligan also played in minor league baseball . He made his MLB debut at the age of 19 and was listed as standing 5 feet 6 inches (168 cm) and weighing 130 pounds (59 kg) .

= = Early life = =

Andrew Bernard Gilligan was born in Cambridge , Massachusetts on January 3 , 1856 . He was the sixth child of seven born to Patrick Gilligan , a laborer , and Sarah Gilligan . Both Patrick and Sarah had immigrated to the United States from Northern Ireland .

= = Professional career = =

Gilligan began his professional career playing right field in 1874 for the New York Flyaways , an amateur baseball club . He continued his professional baseball career in 1876 and 1877 . In 1878 , Gilligan played for various minor @-@ league clubs such as the Somerville Unions of Somerville , Massachusetts , and the Charlestown Alerts of Charlestown , Massachusetts .

In his first full MLB season , Gilligan played for the Cleveland Blues . After his first game with the Blues , the Cleveland Leader stated " Gilligan caught exceedingly well taking some fine pickups . " Over 52 games played , Gilligan batted a career @-@ low .171 with 11 RBI and six doubles . Defensively , he played 27 games as catcher and 23 as an outfielder . Next season , Gilligan continued to play for the Blues , serving as backup catcher to Doc Kennedy before leaving the team at the end of the season to sign with the Providence Grays . With the Grays , he served again as a backup catcher before the starter (Emil Gross) became injured ; on the season , Gilligan batted .219 with 20 RBI . Next year , in 1882 , Gilligan became the starting catcher for the Grays ; his backup , Sandy Nava , was the first Mexican @-@ American baseball player . When the season was over , the Grays finished 52 ? 32 , second in the National League (NL) , under manager Harry Wright .

By 1883 , Gilligan had become the Grays starting catcher . Despite breaking his finger and missing two weeks in May , Gilligan led the National League in assists as a catcher , while his team finished third in the NL . He continued his tenure with the Grays the following season . Gilligan played in a career @-@ high 82 games , while also recording career highs in RBI (38) , strikeouts (41) , and on @-@ base percentage (.325) and leading MLB in defensive games as a catcher (81) . After finishing at the top of the NL , the Grays played in the 1884 World Series against the New York Metropolitans of the American Association . Gilligan went 4 ? for ? 9 over the three @-@ game series , with the Grays defeating the Metropolitans three games to none .

After spending the 1885 season with the Grays , and tying Andy Cusick for the MLB lead in errors committed as a catcher , the Grays management sold out in November of that year . The NL bought the Grays for \$ 6 @,@ 000 , while Gilligan was assigned to the Washington Nationals . He served as captain of the team for the 1886 season , catching 71 games and batting .190 . Before the 1887 season , he established a restaurant in the District of Columbia .

In 1887 , Gilligan was fined \$ 25 for binge drinking and missing a game for the Nationals . The next season , Gilligan was released by the team . In his final MLB season , Gilligan signed with the Detroit Wolverines . He played in one game for the team , going 1 ? for ? 5 with a run and a strikeout . Later that year , Gilligan signed with the Lynn Shoemakers , appearing in 11 games before joining the Manchester Maroons for three games . For the next three years , Gilligan

continued to play minor league baseball .

His career MLB batting average (.207) is tied with John Henry for the seventh lowest all @-@ time among batters with at least 1 @,@ 000 at bats .

= = After baseball = =

After retiring from baseball , Gilligan lived in Lynn , Massachusetts , with his wife , Sara . He worked as a garbage collector before dying of erysipelas on April 1 , 1934 . Gilligan was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery in Lynn .