

= Mickey Micelotta =

Robert Peter " Mickey " Micelotta (born October 20 , 1928) is a former American shortstop in Major League Baseball (MLB) . He played 13 total seasons of professional baseball , two of which were spent in the National League with the Philadelphia Phillies . In 17 career MLB games , Micelotta posted a batting average of .000 and had two runs in nine plate appearances .

Born and raised in Wisconsin , Micelotta first played professionally with the Dayton Indians and Carbondale Pioneers in 1947 . Over the next three seasons , he played for various minor league teams in the Phillies organization before missing the 1951 and 1952 seasons , serving in the Korean War . He returned and played for the Terre Haute Phillies in 1953 and the Syracuse Chiefs from 1954 to 1955 , splitting time between the Chiefs and the Phillies ' major league squad . Micelotta spent the next three seasons with the Miami Marlins and three seasons after that with the Birmingham Barons before retiring from baseball .

= = Early baseball career = =

Born in Corona , New York , Micelotta made his professional debut in 1947 at the age of 18 and played for two different teams that year . He played in 40 games for the Dayton Indians of the Ohio State League and in 25 games for the Carbondale Pioneers of the North Atlantic League . Micelotta spent the 1948 season with two teams in the Philadelphia Phillies minor league system . He spent 58 games with the Bradford Blue Wings of the New York ? Penn League and 60 games with the Dover Phillies of the Eastern Shore League , both D @-@ class teams . In 1949 , Micelotta was promoted to the C @-@ class Vandergrift Pioneers of the Middle Atlantic League ; in 129 games for the Pioneers , he hit .287 and hit a then @-@ career high seven triples .

Micelotta moved to the Schenectady Blue Jays of the Canadian ? American League the following season , where he had a three @-@ hit game against the Gloversville @-@ Johnstown Glovers , which the Blue Jays won , 8 ? 7 . Micelotta finished the season with a .257 batting average in 133 games . He missed the 1951 and 1952 seasons as a result of serving in the United States Army during the Korean War . Micelotta returned to baseball in 1953 , and played for the Terre Haute Phillies of the Illinois ? Indiana ? Iowa League . In 115 games for them , he had a .297 batting average and 15 home runs . After the season ended , the Philadelphia Phillies purchased his contract , adding him to their roster for the upcoming season .

= = Major league career = =

As the 1954 season began , the Phillies noted that Micelotta had a good chance at winning a major league roster spot due to manager Steve O 'Neill being impressed with his fielding and hitting power . His performance during spring training was regarded highly , and he was noted on a list of promising rookies throughout the majors . Micelotta made the roster for the 1954 Phillies and made his major league debut on April 20 . Micelotta played in 13 games for the Phillies that year , served primarily as a pinch runner , and scored two runs in three total at @-@ bats . In June , he was demoted to the Syracuse Chiefs of the International League , where he finished the season . In 95 games for the Chiefs , Micelotta had a .229 batting average and 38 runs batted in .

Micelotta remained on the Phillies ' 40 @-@ man roster to start the 1955 season , but near the end of spring training , the Phillies chose to send him and three others to Syracuse for the season . He spent the first three months of the season with the Chiefs , then was called back up to the Phillies due to both Granny Hamner and Roy Smalley getting injured . He played in four games during his time with the club , going hitless in four at @-@ bats and playing his final major league game on August 2 . After Hamner and Smalley returned from the disabled list , Micelotta was sent back to Syracuse , where he finished out the year . In 127 games for Syracuse in 1955 , Micelotta had a .244 batting average and a career @-@ high nine triples .

= = Later baseball career = =

Micelotta was still considered a promising prospect in 1956 , and spent spring training trying to fight his way back on the roster . By the end of March , with a couple of weeks to go until the season began , he was noted as playing very well , and the Phillies were considering keeping him on the major league roster for the season . He ended up not making the team , and spent the season with the Miami Marlins . During his time with Miami in 1956 , Micelotta was known for his defensive plays at the shortstop position , making three good ones in a 6 ? 1 loss against the Havana Cubans in late May . He finished the season with a .236 batting average and 12 home runs in 146 games .

Due to Micelotta 's " very mediocre " hitting and being unable to help the Phillies as a result , he remained with Miami for the 1957 season . He , Woody Smith , Bobby Young , and Pancho Herrera were considered to be one of the best infields in the International League , with one writer saying , " they make plays the Phillies couldn 't make . " Micelotta finished the year with a .216 batting average in 143 games . He again played a full season with Miami in 1958 after spending the offseason playing in the Dominican Winter League . His performances that season included a triple late in a game against the Richmond Virginians to win it , 3 ? 2 , and a walk @-@ off home run against the Montreal Royals to win that game , 2 ? 1 . He finished the season with a .201 batting average in 127 games played .

After the season ended , Micelotta was released from the Marlins , and he joined the Birmingham Barons , a Detroit Tigers affiliate in the Southern Association , where he spent the final three seasons of his professional career . In 1959 , Micelotta played in all 154 games for Birmingham and had a batting average of .239 , as well as career highs in stolen bases (10) and strikeouts (117) . The following season , Micelotta was named to the Southern Association All @-@ Star Team alongside fellow Barons Stan Palys and Ron Nischwitz . He finished the season with a .253 batting average in 150 games and career highs in home runs (20) and runs batted in (87) .

Micelotta 's comeback season in 1960 resulted in the Detroit Tigers bringing him into spring training as someone who could serve as a utility infielder on the major league roster . After spending March with the Tigers , he was sent back to Birmingham , where he spent the 1961 season . In a match against the Atlanta Crackers , Micelotta had three runs batted in as Birmingham won , 11 ? 2 . He finished his final season of professional baseball with a .237 batting average , seven home runs , and 55 runs batted in in 112 games while splitting time between shortstop and third base. after retiring from baseball , Micelotta worked in the carpet business in New York , then later moved to Greenacres , Florida .