

Arthur McArthur Devlin (16 Oct 1879 - 18 Sep 1948)



Devlin, Arthur. On Saturday, September 18, 1948, at Jersey City, N.J., Arthur Devlin, beloved husband of the late Gertrude Griffin Devlin. Friends may call at the Lee Funeral Home, 4th st. and Mass. Ave. n.e., where services will be held on Tuesday, September 21, at 10:30 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

The Evening Star, September 18, 1948, p. A2

Arthur Devlin, Star of Giants and Georgetown U., Dies at 68 Played Third Base For McGraw 8 Years; Graduate of Central

Arthur Devlin, 68, famous third baseman for the New York Giants from 1904 to 1911, and one of Georgetown University's greatest athletes, died early today in Jersey City after a long illness.

Mr. Devlin, who went from Central High School to football, baseball and basketball fame at Georgetown, had been living in semi-retirement since resigning as a scout for the Giants after the 1934 season.

He was named fullback on the all-time Georgetown football team chosen by Morris A. Bealle in his history of Georgetown football, published last year.

A star of John J. McGraw's Giants in the early rough-and-tumble days of the National League, Mr. Devlin was a standout on the 1905 team which won the World Series. The New York club took the world championship after shutting out the Philadelphia Athletics in four of the five games played. The Athletics won the second game by a shutout for their only series victory.

His record for the most chances accepted by a third baseman in a single game--13 in 1908--has been equaled but never surpassed.

In his first appearance for a big league game, he hit a home run with the bases loaded.

Mr. Devlin played fullback for Georgetown in 1899 and 1900. After starring in the interhigh school championship game of 1898, he spearheaded the Georgetown offense for two years.

A powerful runner, he first played half back, but later was shifted to fullback.

In his first varsity game, against Navy, his long punts were credited with keeping the highly touted Midshipmen bottled up during most of the game. Navy, an overwhelming favorite, was held to two touchdowns.

In the next game, he ran 60 yards through the entire St. John's College team to score in the first few minutes of play.

Through the rest of that season--in which Georgetown won 5, lost 2 and tied 1--Mr. Devlin and Andrew (Cy) Cummings were the bulwarks on offense and defense. Mr. Cummings later became chairman of the Maryland Racing Commission and was one of the builders of the Laurel Racetrack.

The next year, Mr. Devlin was elected captain. In its opening game, Georgetown held Navy to one touchdown, which was scored by a midshipman halfback named Emory Land. That player, now Admiral Land, served as chairman of the Maritime Commission in World War II and currently heads the Air Transport Association.

The lone touchdown was scored when the future admiral blocked a Devlin kick.

Signed By McGraw

Georgetown in that year won five, tied three and lost one. They ran up 84 points against the University of Richmond, with Mr. Devlin leading the smashing offense.

He also was such a standout on the Georgetown baseball team that he was signed for the Giants by McGraw. He spent two seasons with Newark before going with the Giants. Relatives said Mr. Devlin continued his education at Georgetown during the off-season.

During his active playing days, Mr. Devlin tied the National League record for bases stolen in 1905 and led the Eastern--now the International--League in stolen bases in 1903.

In 1912 he was sold to the Boston Braves. He played for them for two years, managed the Oakland club in the Pacific Coast League and then joined the Montreal club of the International League in 1916, then went to Norfolk, Va., as manager of that city's entry in the Virginia League.

He ended his playing days as first baseman and manager of Norfolk in 1918.

Served as Coach

From 1919 to 1935 he served as coach for the Giants, Braves and Pirates.

After retiring from baseball, Mr. Devlin held a variety of jobs. During World War II, he was employed by the Home Owners Loan Corp. here, it was said, and was connected in an executive capacity with a northern New Jersey semi-professional baseball league.

He was born in the Northeast section of Washington, the son of the late Edward Devlin, an Irish immigrant who worked here as a harness maker and locksmith. He had several brothers and sisters, all of whom are dead.

His wife, Mrs. Gertrude Griffin Devlin, died about a month ago.

The Evening Star, September 19, 1948, p. A7

Arthur Devlin Rites To Be Held Tuesday

Funeral services will be held here at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday for Arthur Devlin, 68, third baseman for the New York Giants from 1904 to 1911 and football, baseball and basketball star at Georgetown University at the turn of the century. He died early yesterday in Jersey City, N.J., after a long illness.

The rites will be held at the Lee Funeral Home, Fourth street and Massachusetts avenue N.E. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.

Mr. Devlin named all-time Georgetown fullback, starred in professional baseball in the early rough-and-tumble days of the National League. He was a standout in the 1905 Giants team which won the World Series.

After playing two years for the Boston Braves, Mr. Devlin with minor league teams and ended his baseball career as first baseman and manager of Norfolk in 1918. He held a variety of jobs after his retirement from baseball.

Mr. Devlin's wife, Mrs. Gertrude Griffin Devlin, died about a month ago.