

Former Big League Pitcher Dies

Raymond B. Caldwell, 79, of 30 Main Street, former big league pitcher, died at 9:40 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, 1967 in Salamanca District Hospital where he had been a patient since July 31.

His long career in baseball was a colorful one. It was his 20 victories which helped the Cleveland Indians to win their first pennant 47 years ago. His no-hitter against the Yankees made baseball history and was a highlight of his professional career.

The day he was hit by lightning while pitching for Cleveland against the Philadelphia Athletics is still recalled by baseball fans. Knocked flat by lightning when he had two men out in the ninth inning, he got to his feet, asked for the ball, and fanned the third batter.

He was born in Corydon, Pa. April 26, 1888, the son of Walter F. and Anna Crooks Caldwell. He lived his early life in Corydon and Salamanca.

After entering professional baseball he was in the minors for only about a year. He played with the New York Yankees from 1910 to 1919 and with the Cleveland Indians from 1919 to 1923.

Following this he played with the Southern League until 1932 when he was injured. After that he was manager of several teams and umpired in the Mich-



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igan State League for several years.

Before and after his baseball career he was a telegrapher for the BR & P Railway. After he retired from professional ball, he was also a steward for the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club and Lakewood Memorial American Legion Post.

He was an honorary member of the Professional Baseball Assn. of America; a life member of West End Lodge 753, Birmingham, Ala., and had been a member of Salamanca Elks Lodge 1025 for 51 years.

Cataracts shut out most of

his vision in 1961. At that time the Randolph Lions Club raised funds to pay the expenses involved in eye operations which restored his eyesight. Impressed by this interest, a Cleveland eye surgeon contributed his services.

Mr. Caldwell married Estelle Sheppard March 18, 1939 in Lorain, Ohio. She survives. Also surviving are a son, James Caldwell of Brandywine, W. Va.; four step-daughters, Mrs. Regina Eisenman of Fremont, Ohio; Mrs. Marian Tillotson of Lorain, Ohio, Mrs. Irene Zrimsek of Randolph and Mrs. Jacqueline Christenson of Jamestown; three grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren, several great grandchildren and a nephew, Lt. Col. Harry E. Caldwell Jr. of Lake Charles, La. His brother, Major Harry E. Caldwell, Sr., died in 1945.

Funeral services were held Monday at 2 p.m. in the Hoitink Funeral Home. The Very Rev. Ernest MacEachern, vicar of Grace Episcopal Church, officiated. A Masonic service was held in the funeral home Sunday evening.

Bearers were Floyd Burch, Charles Ruth, Dana Gordon, Ben Mooney, Edwin Nyholm and Clyde Lane.

Burial was in Randolph Cemetery.