

BabeRuth.com

“It’s hard to beat a person who never gives up.”

Bambino Biography

George Ruth, Jr., displayed his potential at a very young age. He played all positions on the field, and was an excellent pitcher. He also possessed a superb ability to hit the ball. By his late teens Ruth had developed into a major league baseball prospect. On February 27, 1914, at the age of nineteen, Ruth was signed to his first professional baseball contract by Jack Dunn, manager of the Baltimore Orioles, at the time a minor league franchise in the International League.

Jack Dunn was well known for picking up youngsters whom he thought had major league potential. When George Ruth, Jr., appeared with Dunn at the ballpark the other players started cracking jokes, and one of the players quipped, “Well, here’s Jack’s newest Babe.” The rest of the players also started referring to young George as “Babe” and the name stuck. Thus began the storied career of Babe Ruth.

Just five months after being signed by the Baltimore Orioles, Babe Ruth was sold to the Boston Red Sox. He made his debut as a major leaguer in Fenway Park on July 11, 1914, pitching against the Cleveland Indians.

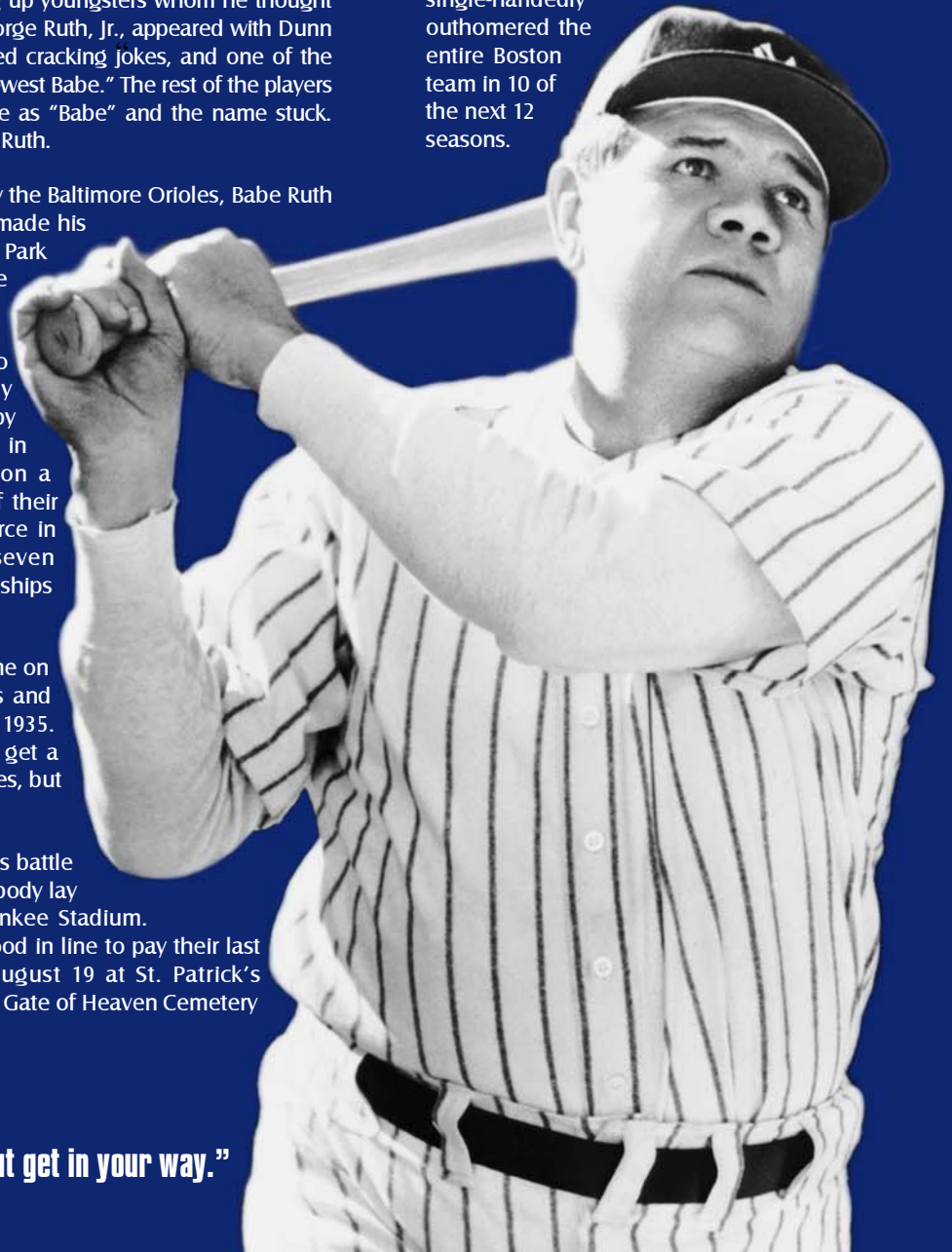
In December of 1919 Babe was sold to the New York Yankees, owned by Colonel Jacob Ruppert and managed by Miller Huggins. Prior to Ruth’s arrival in New York, the team had never won a pennant. With “The Babe” as part of their arsenal they became a dominant force in Major League Baseball, winning seven pennants and four World Championships from 1920 to 1933.

Ruth played his last major league game on May 30, 1935, for the Boston Braves and announced his retirement on June 2, 1935. From that day on he kept hoping to get a chance to manage in the major leagues, but the opportunity never came.

On August 16, 1948, Babe Ruth lost his battle with throat cancer. For two days, his body lay in state at the main entrance to Yankee Stadium. Hundreds of thousands of people stood in line to pay their last respects. Babe’s funeral was on August 19 at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York. He is buried at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne, New York.

Did You Know?

- Babe Ruth was one of only two people (Reggie Jackson being the other) to ever hit three home runs in a World Series game and is the only one to do it twice (1926 & 1928).
- Babe Ruth is credited with the invention of the modern baseball bat. He was the first player to order a bat with a knob on the end of the handle. Louisville Slugger produced the bat which he hit 29 home runs in 1919.
- Babe Ruth holds the record for the longest complete game victory in World Series history. In 1916, as a member of the Boston Red Sox, Ruth went 14 innings to defeat the Brooklyn Dodgers.
- After the Red Sox sold him to the Yankees, Ruth single-handedly outperformed the entire Boston team in 10 of the next 12 seasons.



“Never let the fear of striking out get in your way.”