

May



Russell King

Matt...

Frank...

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Return

Westlake, Waldon "Wally" T.

Waldon "Wally" T. Westlake, the 2nd oldest living Major League Baseball player (98), passed away, Thursday, September 5, 2019, at his home in Sacramento.

Wally was preceded in death by his wife Rose (82 years) and his oldest daughter Patricia. He will be dearly missed by his daughter, Connie (Angelo) Feliciello, his son Wally (Donna), daughter Cathleen (Tim) Corr, and son, Joe. He had four grandchildren, Mike Van Voorhees, Mollyrose Corr, Amy Corr, and Kaley Corr, and great grandchildren, Danielle Van Voorhees and Brennen Van Voorhees.

Wally came from a humble beginning. He was born November 8th, 1920 in Gridley, CA. His parents were Helene and Waldon "Wes" Westlake. The family moved from Gridley to Sacramento when Wally was 5 years old. He was taught early on honesty and integrity, love of the land, and a strong faith in God. He lived these values his entire life. He was a man that never spoke ill of another person and lived by his father's rule of thumb, "a man is only as good as his mouth."

He had friends from the west coast to the east coast. He was still receiving daily baseball fan mail and was contacted often for an interview. Wally was not only a loving husband, father, and grandfather, but an avid hunter and fisherman. We know he's enjoying a good dove season in heaven. He was a graduate of Christian Brothers High School and was inducted into the Christian Brothers Hall of Fame and the La Salle Club Hall of Fame.

Wally had a 10-year MLB career, 1947 - 1956 with many highlights; 1948-1949 two-time cycle



hitter, 1947-1951, 103 HR's with 417 RBI's, 1951 NL All Star, 1954 Indians AL Champs and World Series. In 10 seasons, 272 batting average, 127 Homeruns, 539 RBI's, and seven grand slams.

After returning to the West Coast and playing for the Oakland Oaks, Portland Beavers, and Sacramento Solons, he retired from baseball in 1956. Wally was inducted into the Sacramento Hall of Fame in 1974.

Wally's employment history included; Tidewater Oil, Larchmont Homes, Aerojet (10 years), and Teichert Construction for 16 years.

The family would like to thank his caregiver, Sammy, he was a perfect fit. Sammy was his angel. The care, compassion, friendship, and love he provided was a true blessing to Wally and the family. We would also like to thank the Sutter Hospice team.

Funeral Mass will be held, Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at St. Peter's All Hallows Catholic Church at 10:00 AM, 5501 14th Ave, Sacramento, CA 95820. A reception will immediately follow the service. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Sutter Hospice.

Westlake was a member of the 1954 Cleveland Indians team, who were swept by the New York Giants in the 1954 World Series. He played in two games of the Series, batting 1-for-7 (.143) with one walk. Following the death of fellow teammate Hal Naragon, Westlake was the last surviving player to play with the Indians in the 1954 World Series.

In 958 regular season games played, Westlake hit .272 with 127 home runs and 539 RBIs. He played 738 games in the National League, and 220 games in the American League. He played 834 games in the outfield, and 34 games at third base (all of his games at third were with the 1951 Pittsburgh Pirates).

On August 26, 1947, Westlake became the first white batter hit by a pitch from a black pitcher - Dan Bankhead of the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field.^[4]

Personal life

Westlake graduated from Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento. His brother Jim Westlake was also a major league player.

Westlake served in the United States military during World

Contents

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References

Further reading

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Career

Born in Gridley, California, Westlake played for the Pittsburgh Pirates, St. Louis Cardinals, Cincinnati Reds and Philadelphia Phillies of the National League, and the Cleveland Indians and Baltimore Orioles of the American League. He primarily played as an outfielder, with some appearances as a third baseman.

Westlake hit for the cycle twice in his career (both while playing for the Pirates), coming almost a year apart; July 30, 1948, against the Brooklyn Dodgers,^[1] and June 14, 1949, against the Boston Braves.^[2]

MLB debut

April 15, 1947, for the Pittsburgh Pirates

Last MLB appearance

May 12, 1956, for the Philadelphia Phillies

MLB statistics

Batting average	.272
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Home runs	127
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Runs batted in	539
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Teams

- Pittsburgh Pirates (1947–1951)
- St. Louis Cardinals (1951–1952)
- Cincinnati Reds (1952)
- Cleveland Indians (1952–1955)
- Baltimore Orioles (1955)
- Philadelphia Phillies (1956)

Career highlights and awards

- All-Star (1951)

Achievements		
Preceded by <u>Joe DiMaggio</u> <u>Jackie Robinson</u>	<u>Hitting for the cycle</u> July 30, 1948 June 14, 1949	Succeeded by <u>Jackie Robinson</u> <u>Gil Hodges</u>

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wally westlake baseball

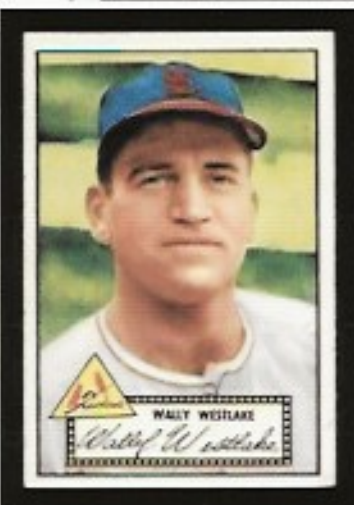
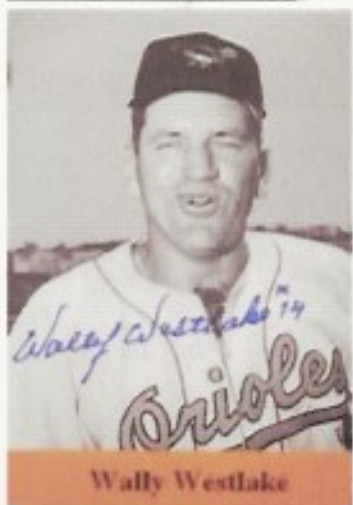
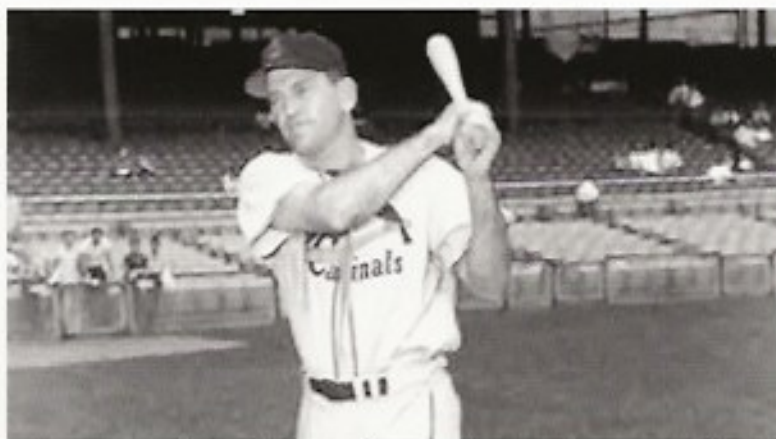
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TOPPS 81 WALTON THOMAS WESTLAKE outfield PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES
 Height: 6' Weight: 195 Bats: Right Throws: Right
 Home: Sacramento, California Born: November 8, 1920

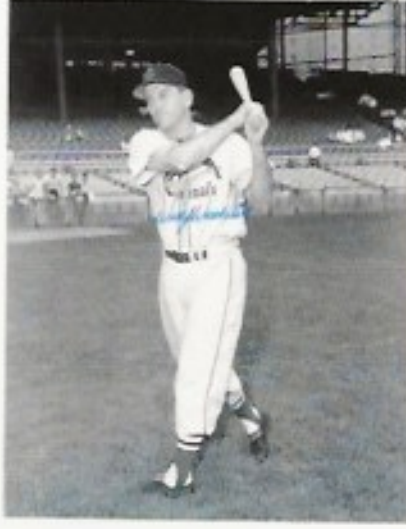
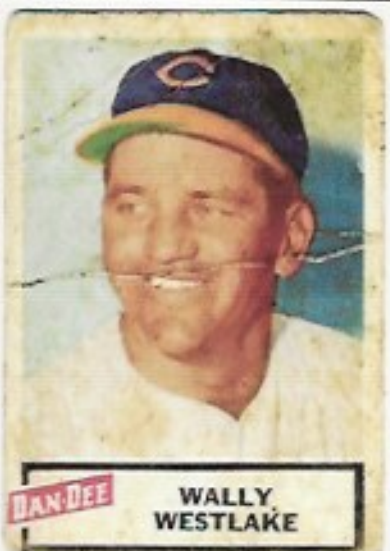
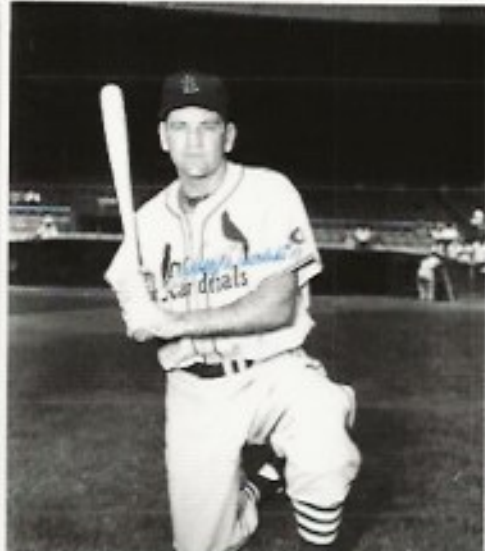
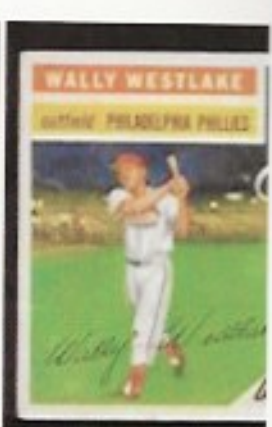
LONG BALL HITTER
 WALLY IS A SETTER
 IN DECADES

WALLY IS A
 FINE FIELDER
 WITH A GOOD ARM

MAJOR LEAGUE.COM/COM FIELDING

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153	213	474	348	107	35	127	526	272	1872	136	478





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Wally Westlake

Wally Westlake

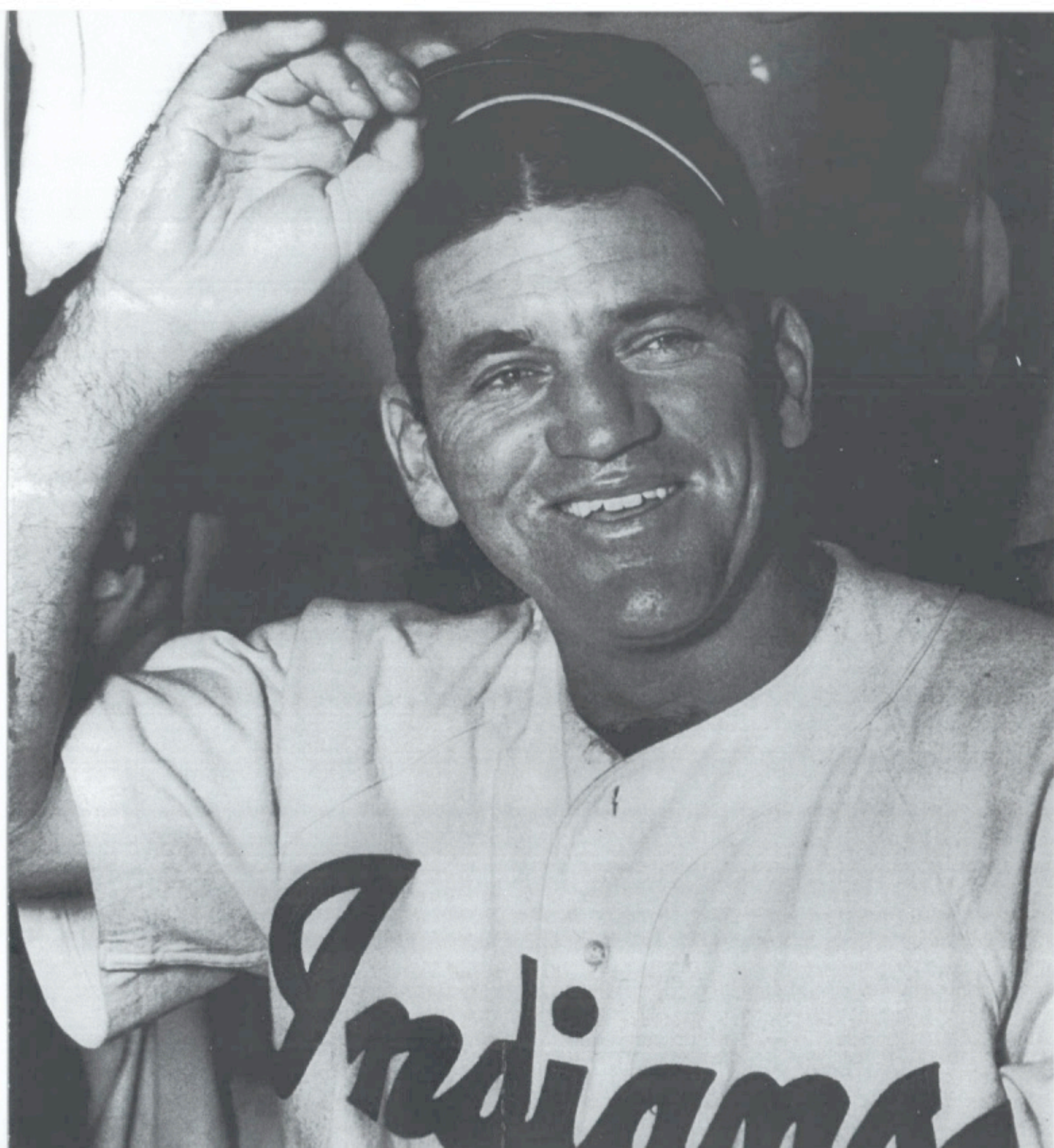


Outfielder

Born: November 8, 1920
Gridley, California

Died: September 5, 2019 (aged 98)







1947 - WALLY WESTLAKE - HANK GREENBURG - RALPH KINER



(BX1) BOSTON, JULY 23 - NEXT STOP YANKEE STADIUM - Seven Cleveland Indian sluggers who racked up 11 home runs against the Red Sox in three-day series are taking those same bats to Yankee Stadium tonight for start of a possible showdown series with the New Yorkers, half a point astern of the league-leading Indians. Pictured after taking yesterday's double-header 6-3 and 5-2 are, seated, (l. to r.) Wally Westlake, Larry Doby, Al Smith. Standing: (l. to r.) Al Rosen, Bobby Avila, Vic Wertz and Jim Hezan. Doby, Rosen, Avila and Wertz hit two homers each. (AP WIREPHOTO)