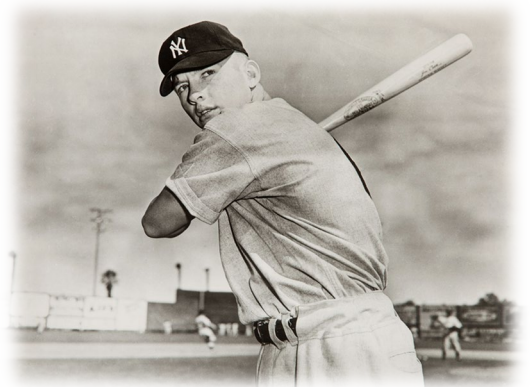
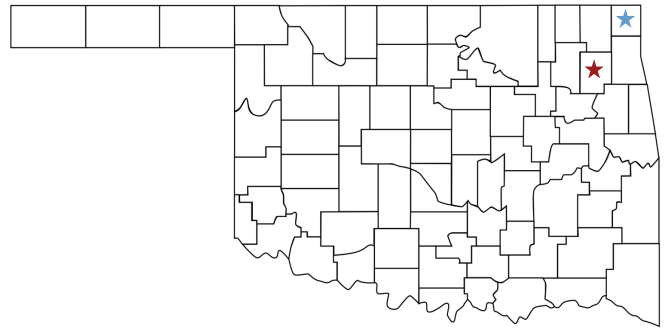




# My Mickey Mantle Memoir



<b>Name</b>	Mickey Charles Mantle
<b>Born</b>	October 20, 1931
<b>Birthplace</b> ★	Spavinaw, Oklahoma
<b>Hometown</b> ★	Commerce, Oklahoma
<b>Died</b>	August 13, 1995



Mickey Mantle was born in Spavinaw, Oklahoma. When he was four, his family moved to Commerce, Oklahoma.



*Mickey Mantle's Steakhouse in Oklahoma City's Bricktown*

Throughout his Major League career, Mickey Mantle received numerous awards for his accomplishments, including:

- American League Triple Crown (1956)
- AP Male Athlete of the Year (1956)
- Sporting News Major League Player of the Year (1956)
- American League MVP (1956, 1957, 1962)
- American League Gold Glove (1962)

Mickey played for a minor league team for a year. After that, he was sent to play in the majors. For 17 years, he played for the New York Yankees. During his career, Mickey played center field, right field, and first base. He also played in 20 MLB All-Star Games and helped his team win seven World Series championships!



*Monument to Mickey Mantle in his hometown of Commerce, Oklahoma*

## The Legend

Mickey Mantle's accomplishments continued to be recognized, even after he retired from baseball.

<b>1964</b>	Inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame
<b>June 8, 1969</b>	Yankees retire Mantle's number 7
<b>1974</b>	Inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame
<b>1998</b>	Ranked 17 on the list of Baseball's 100 Greatest Players
<b>June 4, 2002</b>	A Manhattan school was named after him
<b>2006</b>	Featured on a postage stamp



*Mickey Mantle's plaque in the Baseball Hall of Fame*



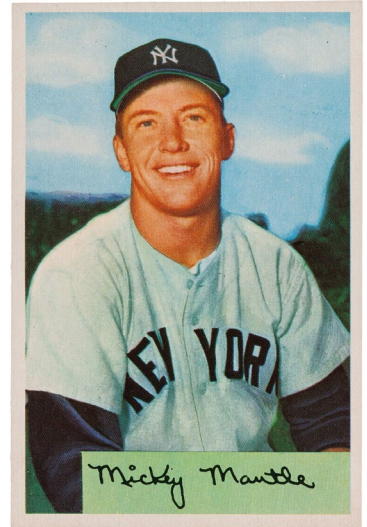
Mickey grew up playing baseball with his dad and grandpa. He would practice hitting the ball as a righty and a lefty. This was very hard to do. A person who can hit both ways is called a switch hitter. All the practice with his dad and grandpa helped him become one of the greatest switch hitters of all time!

When he was younger, Mickey Mantle played football, too. He was hurt badly one day at practice. This injury almost ended his career. His parents drove him to Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City. The doctors gave him the care he needed. They said that if he hadn't been treated in time, they might have needed to amputate his leg!

## The Man

Mickey Mantle started his career playing for the Baxter Springs Whiz Kids. A scout from the Yankees came to watch a game. While he was there, he saw Mickey hit three home runs in one game. He offered him a spot to play on a minor league baseball team. When he graduated from high school, he signed a contract.

Mickey Mantle was a famous baseball player. He would often say that his best year was 1956. That year he won many awards and became known as the hero of the World Series. In Game 5 of the series, Don Larsen pitched a perfect game. If it wasn't for a great catch by Mickey, that never would have happened!



*Mickey Mantle baseball card*



*Mickey Mantle's number 7 retired by the New York Yankees*

Mickey Mantle has been described as:

- The Greatest Switch Hitter in Baseball History
- One of the Greatest Offensive Threats of any Center Fielder

<b>Nicknames</b>	The Commerce Comet The Mick
<b>Team</b>	New York Yankees
<b>Years Played</b>	1951-1968
<b>First Game</b>	April 17, 1951
<b>Last Game</b>	Sept. 28, 1968
<b>Batted</b>	Switch
<b>Threw</b>	Right
<b>Batting Average</b>	.298
<b>Hits</b>	2,415
<b>Home Runs</b>	536
<b>Runs Batted In (RBI)</b>	1,509

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