



## Jackie Robinson

Jackie Robinson was born January 31, 1919, in Cairo, Georgia and later moved to Pasadena, California. Continuing his education at UCLA, he remains the only student to earn varsity letters in four sports in one year. He served as a second lieutenant in the United States Army and, after his honorable discharge in 1944, played baseball in the Negro Leagues.

Having caught the attention of the Brooklyn Dodgers, Mr. Robinson joined the franchise's farm team in 1946, debuting with the Dodgers on April 15, 1947 as the first black player to compete in the Major Leagues. He overcame unimaginable bigotry and during his ten-year career, was named Rookie of the Year (1947), Most Valuable Player (1949) and won a World Series title (1955). His .311 batting average, 197 stolen bases and six All-Star game appearances ensured his enshrinement into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962. The father of three continued to push for equality through his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, a leadership position within the NAACP, as an executive for Chock Full O' Nuts, and through his help in establishing the Freedom National Bank.

Jackie Robinson died on October 24, 1972 at the age of 53.