On This Date   November 16, 2014
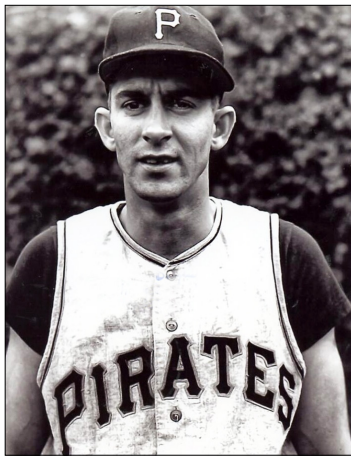
On November 16, 2014, former Pittsburgh Pirates' pitcher Charles "Whammy" Douglas passes away in Richlands, North Carolina, at the age of 79.

A slender one-eyed right-hander from Saxapahaw, North Carolina, Douglas makes his major league debut on July 29, 1957, against the St. Louis Cardinals. He walks seven and allows five hits in five innings of work and takes the loss in a 4-0 shutout by the Cardinals' Vinegar Bend Mizell.

Douglas spends the remainder of the 1957 season with the Pirates, finishing with a 3-3 record and a 3.26 ERA. Plagued by control problems for most of his career, Douglas strikes out 28 in 47 innings, but issues 30 walks in his only season at the major league level.

In his eight starts for the Corsairs that season, Douglass pitches into the fifth inning five times, including three appearances of seven innings or more. He picks up his first major league win on August 11, against the Brooklyn Dodgers in only his second start, allowing one earned run in seven innings on eight hits and one walk in a 6-2 win.

Douglas loses his right eye at the age of 13 while playing with other boys in his home town of Saxapahaw. According to a story posted on mlb.com, Douglas acquires his unique nickname of "Whammy" while pitching for a local American Legion team.

"I was striking everyone out, so they just started calling me 'Whammy'," he relates in the story. "They couldn't hit the ball and it just stuck with me. I don't know how, but it did. Some people still call me that now."