



Doug Neff

One of 32 players from the University of Virginia to play in the major leagues, 22-year-old Douglas Williams Neff makes his debut with the Washington Senators on June 26, 1914, in a 6-5 loss to the eventual American League champion Philadelphia Athletics.

Neff is hitless in two at bats in three games for Clark Griffiths' Senators when his rookie campaign is cut short on July 7, when he contracts typhoid fever and returns to his home in Charlottesville, Virginia, for the remainder of the season.

Reporting to the Senators' spring training camp the following March, Neff "looks the picture of health" but admits to suffering from the effects of the fever with his knees becoming weak with exercise.

Born October 8, 1891, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, Neff is one of four brothers to attend the University of Virginia where he stars on the diamond as an infielder and pitcher for four seasons, captaining the team in 1914 ... considered to be the best shortstop in college baseball, Neff signs with the Senators on May 9, 1914, after considering an offer from the New York Giants.

A student in Virginia's engineering program, Neff plans of pursuing his graduate work at MIT at the end of the season.

Neff returns to the Senators in 1915, going 10 for 60 (.167) with one double and four RBI's in 30 games, making his last major league appearance on October 6, 1915.

Retiring after the 1915 season, Neff enters the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, where in the first week of September 1917 he is assigned to the training camp for reserved officers at Fort Meade, Maryland.

After serving as a captain in Army during World War I, Neff returns to civilian life as an Episcopal Minister in Orange, Virginia ... on May 25, 1932, Neff is reported missing from his stateroom on an Old Dominion Line steamer when it arrives in New York two days after leaving Norfolk ... two weeks later his body washes ashore on Cobbs Island, Virginia, and is identified by his brother and brought back to Charlottesville for burial.

Douglas Neff's last major league game October 6, 1915

SECOND GAME.												
Philadelphia.						Washington.						
AB	H	O	A	E		AB	H	O	A	E		
Schang, lf	3	1	1	0	1	Judge, lb	4	1	1	5	2	0
Strunk, rf	3	2	0	0	0	Foster, 2b	1	1	2	1	0	0
Oldring, cf	4	0	2	0	0	Neff, ss...	2	0	1	3	0	0
M'In'is, 1b	3	0	6	1	0	H Milan, cf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Malone, 2b	4	0	2	4	0	Barber, rf	3	0	1	0	0	0
Kopf, ss...	4	0	2	0	0	Jam'on, lf	2	0	1	0	0	0
Dam'ru, 3b	4	1	1	2	0	Shanks, 3b	4	0	2	7	2	1
Perkins, c	3	0	1	2	0	Wil'ms, c	4	0	2	2	1	0
Myers, p...	3	0	1	0	0	Sawyer, ss	3	0	2	3	1	0
						Bentl'y, p	2	0	1	0	0	0
						Boehling, p	0	0	0	1	0	0
						*C. Milan, p	0	0	0	0	0	0

Totals...31 4 27 9 1 Totals...28 2 27 13 4
 *Batted for Bentley in seventh.
 Score by innings:
 Philadelphia0 1 0 0 0 0 0 3 0-4
 Washington0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0
 Summary: Runs—Schang, Strunk, McInnis, Perkins. Three-base hit—Schang. Stolen bases—C. Milan, Strunk. Earned runs—Philadelphia, 2. Sacrifice hits—Neff, Strunk, Jamieson, Myers. Double play—Shanks, Foster and Judge. Left on bases—Philadelphia, 5; Washington, 8. First base on errors—Philadelphia, 3; Washington, 1. Bases on balls—off Myers, 5; off Bentley, 1; off Boehling, 2. Hits—off Bentley, 2 in 7 innings; off Boehling, 2 in 2 innings. Struck out—by Myers, 10; by Boehling, 1. Wild pitch—Myers. Passed ball—Williams. Umpire, O'Loughlin. Time, 1:15.