

Ty Cobb and Success

Tyrus Raymond (Ty) Cobb is considered one of the greatest major league baseball players ever. Nicknamed *The Georgia Peach*, he was elected to the Hall of Fame with the most votes of any player on the 1936 inaugural Hall of Fame ballot.

Cobb rewrote baseball's record books, setting more than 90 records at one time or another. He played outfield 21 years for the Detroit Tigers, and one year with the Philadelphia Athletics before retiring in 1928. His career batting average was .366, he had 4,189 hits and 1,937 runs batted in.

His success in the sports world is still widely acclaimed today. Despite it all, however, there is a telling moment in his life.

Edgar DeWitt Jones, a popular preacher of his day, told of a visit with the famous baseball player. Jones and Cobb talked baseball, of course, while other guests were arriving at the function they were attending.

Jones congratulated Cobb on his playing abilities. The soft-spoken Georgian was in a pensive mood. "I have had a good time, and I have been well-paid," he said, "but I wish I had been a doctor and had won distinction in that field. Then I could look back on years that had been spent in helping people, setting broken bones, and healing their hurts."

What matters most in life – hitting baseballs out of the park or actions that contribute to the personal wellbeing of others? Ty Cobb knew the answer.

And so do the associates of Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, who daily minister – physically, mentally and spiritually – to those they encounter.

--Beecher Hunter