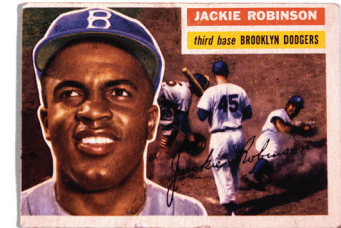


# Fast Facts

## JACKIE ROBINSON



- ★ Born January 31, 1919 in Cairo, Georgia; grew up with his mother and four siblings in Pasadena, California
- ★ A naturally gifted athlete, he ran track and played football, baseball, and basketball for UCLA in college.
- ★ Served as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War II
- ★ Played shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs, a Negro National League baseball team
- ★ Met with Brooklyn Dodgers co-owner Branch Rickey in 1945; Rickey was looking for a gifted African-American player with the restraint to stand up to taunts from bullies and racists to integrate Major League Baseball
- ★ On April 15, 1947 played first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers; endured slurs and death threats from angry fans and went on to win the Rookie of the Year Award
- ★ Retired from baseball in 1956 and became more active in the civil rights movement
- ★ Inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962; posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the nation's highest honors, in 2003
- ★ Died October 24, 1972

