

Ervin Frank Dusak, 74, a retired insurance agent for Metropolitan Life Insurance, played baseball in the 1940s for the St. Louis Cardinals as an outfielder and a relief pitcher. He was in the 1946 World Series, which the Cardinals won in seven games. A resident of Bloomingdale, he died Sunday at his son's home in Glendale Heights. When he began his baseball career, Mr. Dusak signed with one of the most productive farm club systems ever, the one developed for the Cardinals in the 1930s by the late Branch Rickey. Mr. Dusak's nickname was "Four Sack" because a fan wrote a poem about his ability to hit home runs while he was a minor league player in Mobile, Ala. He played his first major league game in 1941 and his first full season was in 1946. Among his teammates on the Cardinals that year were: Stan Musial, Red Schoendienst, Marty Marion and Enos Slaughter. He played outfield, batted .240 and hit nine home runs. He hit .284 the next year, but as his batting average subsequently declined, he became a relief in 1950 before being traded to Pittsburgh. After retiring as a player in 1952, he joined Metropolitan Life, being employed by the insurance company for 21 years. He then worked for another 10 years at a bowling alley. Survivors include his wife, Geraldine; two sons, David and Ervin Jr.; and three grandchildren. Services for Mr. Dusak will be 10 a.m. Thursday in the Cypress Funeral Home, 1698 Bloomingdale Rd., Glendale Heights. Source: Chicago Tribune - Tuesday, November 8, 1994