

# BASEBALL LEGEND A HIT IN WESTON

*Dear Mr. Know-It-All, someone told me that baseball great Eddie Collins is buried around here. Do you know where? M.S., Natick*

Mr.  
**Know-It-All**



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**T**hat would be Linwood Cemetery in Weston, M.S. Eddie Collins is buried in Weston because he lived in the town at the time of his death. To be more specific, he lived at 455 Concord Road. For more on his abode, we turn to Pamela W. Fox, author of "Farm Town to Suburb: The History of Weston, Massachusetts."

The 74-acre farm property on which the home would later be built was bought by Jesse Cheney in 1795. His grandson, Gilbert N. Cheney (1807-1880) was probably the builder of the present Greek Revival house, according to Fox. It dates back to around 1850. Gilbert's son, George G. Cheney, was the last of the Cheney farmers and his widow, Mary Cheney Gowell, sold the house to Francis H. Whitman.

In late 1928, Whitman's son, Henry, sold the

home to Frances Frazier, who added a ballroom and hired an Italian mason from Lincoln to build a serpentine wall inspired by the Jeffersonian wall at the University of Virginia.

"Neighborhood baseball enthusiasts were pleased when she sold (the house) to Eddie Collins, a Hall of Fame baseball player who was then general manager of the Red Sox," Fox writes. "Ted Williams, Bobby Doerr, Jimmy Foxx and Roger Cramer visited the house. Eddie Collins is remembered fondly for giving baseball tickets to kids on the street."

Henry Jones, who lived across the street from Collins, was one of the recipients of those tickets. "He was a great guy," says Jones during a phone interview last week. "He was very generous giving tickets to ballgames. We went to quite a few and sat in his private box besides the Red Sox dugout. He even got me tickets to the 1946 World Series.

"He was kind to my parents, too. Every holiday, he and his wife always remembered us with  
**MR. KNOW-IT-ALL, Page F6**



**Baseball great Eddie Collins**

**GED BIES?**

lot of red  
ies lately?  
entalist Ron  
is the answer  
owing Our  
column.  
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