



# PRESS RELEASE

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS NATURALS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2022

## WHIT MERRIFIELD INDUCTED INTO THE NATURALS HALL OF FAME

*The two-time Major League All-Star was honored during a pre-game ceremony at Arvest Ballpark*

**SPRINGDALE, Ark** – The Northwest Arkansas Naturals proudly announced today – Saturday, April 16, 2022 – that **Whit Merrifield**, a former star player for the Naturals from 2012 to 2014, has been inducted into the Naturals Hall of Fame. Merrifield was elected over fellow 2022 candidates, **OF Wil Myers** and **LHP Danny Duffy**, to receive the honor by the Naturals' Hall of Fame Voting Committee.

Merrifield becomes just the seventh individual inducted into the Naturals Hall of Fame and first inductee since the 2019 season. He joins elite company as he will now be honored with a plaque next to the likes of **Clint Robinson** ('13), **Brian Poldberg** ('14), **Mike Moustakas** ('15), **Eric Hosmer** ('16), **Salvador Perez** ('18), and **Kila Ka'aihue** ('19). The Naturals Hall of Fame is located just inside the main gates of Arvest Ballpark along the wall of the Northwest Health Community Room. Fans are encouraged to check out the Hall of Fame plaques as well as the **Season 10 Team** ('17) during their next visit to a game.

Whit Merrifield played a total of 162 total games with the Naturals spanning from 2012 to 2014 and is tied for sixth all-time with seven triples. His 2014 season yielded a Texas League Mid-Season All-Star selection and a promotion to Triple-A Omaha. Between the two levels, Whit had 41 doubles – which tied for sixth among minor league players – while slashing a combined .319/.371/.470. Since debuting with the Kansas City Royals against the Boston Red Sox on May 16<sup>th</sup> of 2016, Whit has become a two-time All-Star and a fan favorite amongst Royals fans. He has led the Major Leagues in hits twice – in 2018 and 2019 – and has also led the American League in stolen bases three times – in 2017, 2018, and 2021.

The Naturals 2022 Hall of Fame Induction was presented by **Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield**.

The Northwest Arkansas Naturals are the Double-A Affiliate of the Kansas City Royals. They play at state-of-the-art Arvest Ballpark in Springdale, Ark. For more information, including ticket options, promotions, groups, visit [NWANaturals.com](http://NWANaturals.com), and follow us on Twitter [@NWANaturals](https://twitter.com/NWANaturals) and Facebook [facebook.com/Naturals](https://facebook.com/Naturals).

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