

## Farrell Funston - Class of 1954

Farrell Funston lettered in football, basketball, baseball and track at Dixon High School. In 1952, as a freshman, Farrell scored a school record 42 points in a basketball game. The following year he scored a new school record of 44 points. Farrell's scoring record for most points scored in a single basketball game still stands today. In his first two seasons in 1952 and 1953, Farrell was twice named Small School Player of the Year. In 1954, he led Dixon High to All-State honors in basketball with a 17-2 record and was selected to play in an All Star basketball game. In a 1995 Sacramento Bee newspaper article, the reporter stated, "Every so often, Dixon High School unleashes a (basketball) scorer of "dream team" stature. Farrell Funston was that caliber in the 1950's." In 1953, in the Northern California Small Schools Track Meet, Farrell placed 2nd in the High Jump and 4th in 180 yard low hurdles. He also led his track team to the Small School Championship at Cal Aggie Picnic Day meet. However, it was football in which Farrell particularly excelled. A Sacramento Bee newspaper story in 2000 listed the "100 Best High School Football Players in Sacramento-Area History." Farrell was listed at number 45. He led Dixon High's football team as a fullback. In 1953, he was named by the San Francisco Chronicle and San Francisco Examiner newspaper to "All Inland Empire" Team and played in the All-Star Bowl football game. After graduating from high school, Farrell attended college in Stockton at the University of the Pacific. There he played football, set receiving records, was named to the All Conference team and played in the Shrine East-West game. He played offensive end and defensive linebacker. Farrell was inducted into UOP's Hall of Fame in 1982. In 1959, Farrell was drafted by the Cleveland Browns, though he never played a down in the NFL. In 1960, Farrell signed with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in the Canadian football league where he had a very successful career. In 1961, he was named to the Canadian West All Star Team and again in 1963. Farrell played offensive end and defensive linebacker for Winnipeg but he was predominantly an offensive end. He played for Winnipeg for eight seasons. He was inducted into the Winnipeg Football Club Hall of Fame in 1986. He assisted his team in winning the Gray Cup, the CFL's version of the Super Bowl. Farrell has passed away in 1996 and is survived by his seven children Saxon, Connie, Delilah, Sampson, Cindy, Cherry and Shelley.

