

## Otto Bruhn Class of 1939

Otto Bruhn was born in Dixon in 1921. At Dixon High, Otto played football, basketball and track. However, Otto excelled at track. He ran the 100, 200, and 440 yard races and also competed in the shot put and broad jump. Otto's best event was the 440. In 1939, he set a league meet record for the 440, winning in :51.7 seconds. The league record stood for over 18 years. He also set a school record in the 440 of :50.5 seconds which held for 27 years. Otto's quickness in the 440 was fast enough to qualify for the state track and field championships in Los Angeles in 1939. Otto was, at the time, only the third Dixon student to qualify for a state track meet, the other two students to qualify both qualifying in 1923. Otto placed 8<sup>th</sup> of 16 runners in the 440. .

Otto attended U.C. Davis for two years after graduating from Dixon. He also ran track while at Davis. In 1940, he was a member of the mile relay team that set the school record of 3:25.9. In 1941, Otto set the school record in the 440 with a time of :49.7. These records stood over 20 years. Otto transferred to U.C. Berkeley to run track and obtain a degree in 1943. He continued his education by attending and graduating from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in New York in 1944.

Otto served as an engineering officer in the World War II merchant marine. He taught at the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo for 36 years. Otto married Bess Bryson and had three children, John, Victoria and Christine. Otto passed away in 1996.