



**HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA
INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION
SOUTHERN SECTION
(CIFSS)**



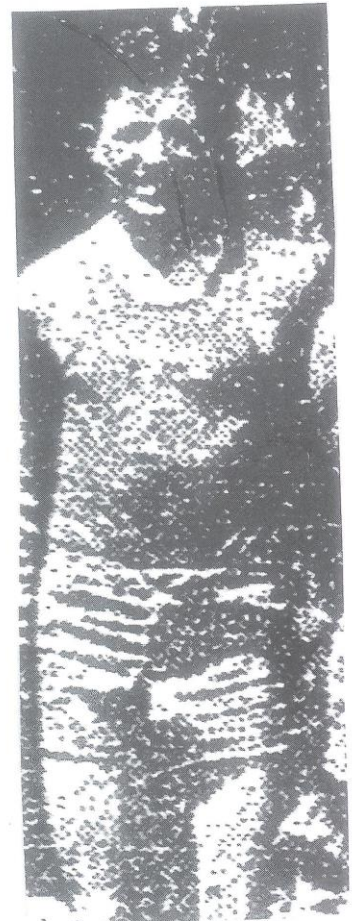
32nd historical “tidbit.”

**TRACK AND FIELD - THE FOOTBALL THROW
1932 – 1938
JOHN RAITT – FULLERTON HIGH SCHOOL
STATE RECORD HOLDER - 1935 - 220'**



The CIFSS and the State CIF had always been concerned about the liability of the discus and javelin throw events in the State Track Meet. As a result, in 1932 the football throw became an exhibition event to replace the javelin and discus events. The football throw became a regular event in 1933 and was discontinued in 1938. Javelin rules applied and the football had to have intercollegiate specifications. In addition, “nothing could be used on the hands of the contestants which would in any way interfere with others who wished to use the ball” (State Federated Council Minutes, May 25, 1935). John Raitt, Fullerton High School, led the Indians to a State Championship in the meet held at Fresno State College. Raitt won the shot put with a throw of 55' ¼” and set the all time state record in the football throw with a toss of 220' (almost 70 yards). He received a scholarship from USC but decided to attend Redlands. John Emmett Raitt later became a star of the musical theatre and stage. He has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and is best known for his stage roles in the musicals *Carousel*, *Oklahoma*, and *The Pajama Game*. He set the standard of handsome and strong-voiced leading men during the golden age of Broadway musicals. He starred in the 1957 movie version of *The Pajama Game* with Doris Day and sang along side Mary Martin in *Annie Get Your Gun*. He is in the Fullerton High School Hall of Fame. He is the father of the famous country singer Bonnie Raitt. His grandson, Bay Raitt, is the creator of Gollum’s face for the Lord of the Rings film trilogy.





JOHN RAITT

Football 1, 2, 3, 4; Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4;
Capt. 4; Track 1, 2, 3, 4; Class Pres. 3; Hi-Y
2, 3, 4; Vice-Pres. 4; Glee Club 3, 4.

FULLERTON BOYS SHOWING WELL

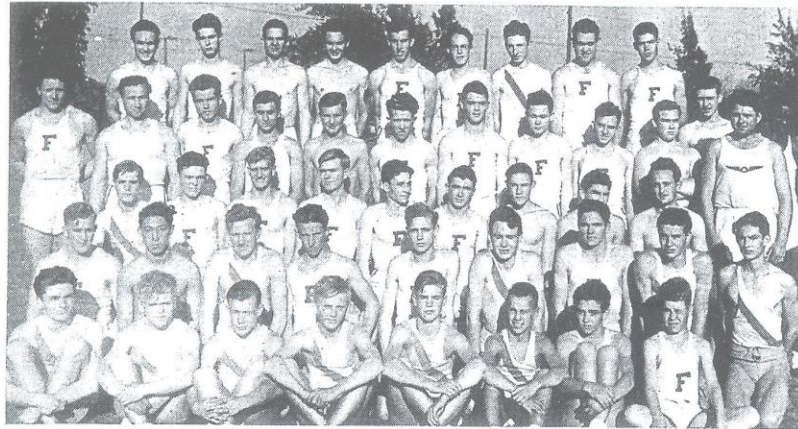
Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File); Apr 26, 1931; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Los Angeles Times (1881 - 1985) pg. F3

FULLERTON BOYS SHOWING WELL

Coach Arthur L. Johnson is pinning hopes of developing a Junior Olympic champion from the excellent material in the Fullerton schools. Following is the team which will represent Fullerton: Top row—A. L. Johnson, coach; John Raitt, Arthur Coltrin, Bill Hawkins, Francis La Point, Gerry Oswald, Phillip Porter. Bottom row—Carl Swensen, Billy Frank, James Bland, Albert Hobbs, Norman Christensen and Wessely Kewish.



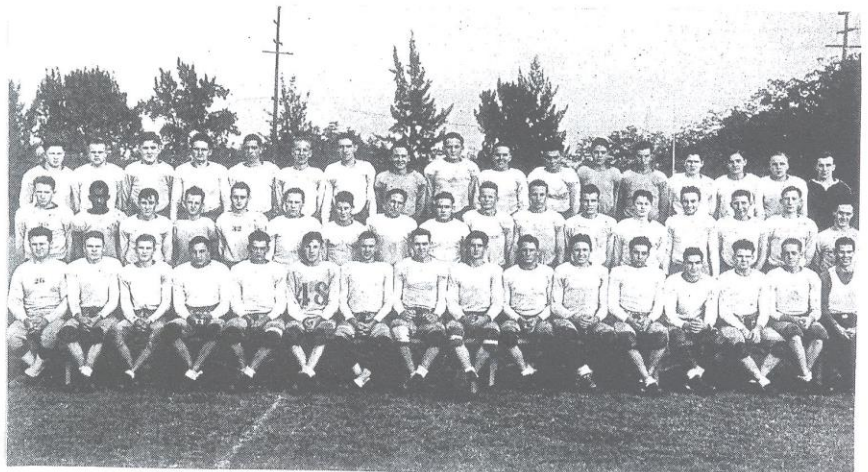
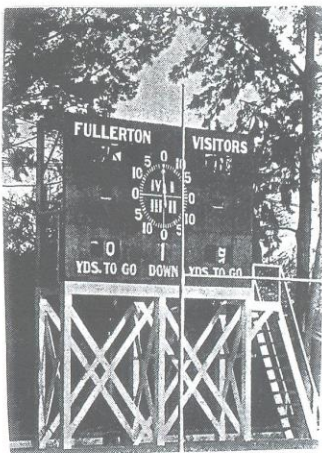
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TRACK

To prove the caliber of this year's track squad all one has to say is that the three divisions broke and tied eight records. Two varsity records fell: 440-yard dash, "Ed" Miller, 51 seconds; 12-pound shot put, John Raitt, 54'4". Five "B" records were set: 10-pound shot put, "Bill" Nordheim, 43'3"; 70-yard high hurdles, "Ed" Koontz, 13.8 seconds; 1320-yard run, Vanderberg, 3 minutes 39.5 seconds; pole vault, "Bill" McDonald, 11'4½".

The varsity this year was not as strong as it was last year, but it has some outstanding individuals in its ranks. John Raitt is rated as one of the best, if not the best, shot-putters in Southern California; Erwin Miller is expected to take first place in the league and probably the same in the Southern California meet. The relay team is also expected to be in the "money" in the finals.



C.I.F. COUNCIL TO VOTE ON FOOTBALL THROW

IRVING ECKHOFF

Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File); Feb 5, 1933; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Los Angeles Times pg. E2

C.I.F. COUNCIL TO VOTE ON FOOTBALL THROW

BY IRVING ECKHOFF

Whether or not the football throw will count for points in the Southern California C.I.F. meet will be decided this week when Seth Van Patten, C.I.F. commissioner, mails ballots to all members of the prep council.

The football throw was installed as an exhibition event last year with the idea that some day it would replace the discus, which event has been discarded by all prep leagues. In the meantime the football throw didn't pan out so well. Practically all local track coaches look on it as a "screwy" event for a track meet.

For instance, Dick Arnett, Inglewood mentor, feels bad about it.

"They take away a good event like the discus and foist that darn football throw on us," says Dick.

John Fox, athletic director for the

city school system, says the football throw isn't regarded very highly locally. The San Fernando Valley League has voted it out as a regular event and Fox is pretty sure the City League doesn't want it.

"If they are looking for a good event to add to the program what's the matter with the hop-step-and-jump?" is Fox's parting shot.

The rubber discus, recently invented by Harry Campbell, Los Angeles Jaycee coach, also came in for some mention. The spheroid is considered fairly fool-proof and some folk believe it will some day replace the now old-fashioned steel-rimmed platter.

Word trickles through from Pasadena that big Bob Pyle, State prep shot champion, has enrolled at Pasadena Junior College. However, Push-'em Pyle will not be eligible to represent the Bulldogs.

He will confine his activities to competing as an unattached ath-

lete in all the invitational meets possible. The Long Beach A.A.U. relays on March 4 will witness Pyle's 1933 debut.

The Pasadena weight tosser heaved the twelve-pound shot well over fifty-four feet last season, his best mark with the sixteen-pound being forty-five feet. So far this year he has tossed the lighter pellet fifty-five feet and naturally hopes to better by a few feet his sixteen-pound record.

Fifty-foot shot putters are going to be all over the place if present indications hold true. Max Glasgow, Covina strong man, has a mark of 50ft. 6in. already. Johnny Meek, Chaffey star, is another possibility. Inglewood has two boys who may hit fifty—Bill Troxel and George Bergman. Both are hovering around 47ft. right now.

Back about 1926 the Trojans had

a promising young athlete in Hugh Hutchinson of Covina. Hutch was forced to quit Troy, following his sophomore year, because of low finances. Now, seven years later, he has returned to Troy. Hutchinson has kept in shape all these years playing basketball and baseball with the Covina town team.

He will not be eligible until next year, when he plans to go out for basketball and track. In his senior year at Covina High, 1924, Hutch scored 19 points in the Central League meet. The Central loop has departed long since, but Hutch carries on.

Jack Clark and Bill Nunn, two prize athletic plums from Vic Kelley's Hollywood football team, will not gladden the heart of a college coach for a while. The boys are planning a trip around the world and have lined up a job scrubbing decks, etc., says G. E. Thompson, Hollywood fan.

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CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION

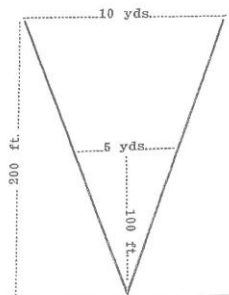
MEETING OF THE FEDERATED COUNCIL

LOS ANGELES—MAY 20, 1933

The football throw is now a regular event in the State Track and Field Meet. Great interest is being taken in the event, as is shown by the rapid increase in the distance thrown. The event is conducted in accordance with the following ruling:

"Ball to pass between diverging lines 5 yards apart and 100 feet from the throwing line. Javeline rules of throwing shall apply. If the ball touches either parallel line the throw does not count. The football shall have intercollegiate specifications."

The following diagram shows the range, and the method of measuring:



Boys Football Throw

- 1932 - Boyd, Fresno, 186-8"
- 1933 - Buster Wilson, Compton, 202 ft.
- 1934 - Karl Gudmundsen, Inglewood, 203-7 1/2
- 1935 - John Raitt, Fullerton, 220 ft.
- 1936 - Charles Fenenbock, Pittsburg, 206-2
- 1937 - Wilbur Thompson, Modesto, 195 ft.
- 1938 - Ray Overhouse, Sacramento, 193-6

All measurements to be made at right angles to the restraining line. Ball striking line is out.

The host school will furnish two footballs.

California Interscholastic Federation

State High School

TRACK AND FIELD MEET



Fresno State College Stadium

Fresno, California

Saturday, May 25, 1935



FEDERATED COUNCIL MEMBERS

C. L. BIEDENBACH
C. L. GEER
HARRY MOORE
W. H. ORION

E. W. OLIVER

HERMAN SPINDT
HOMER S. TOMS
SYDNEY A. TIBBETTS
LEO A. WADSWORTH

Football Throw

2	Baird	Sanger	85	Bradshaw	Redonde
3	Barreior	Hanford	93	Freedman	Santa Monica
33	Samuelian	Fresno High	107	Minnear	Santa Barbara
35	Simmons	Taft	113	Raitt	Fullerton
53	Campbell	Gridley	135	Feneback	Pittsburg
64	Manuel	Vacaville	125	Allen	Berkeley
66	Olson	Placer Union	157	Shelby	Martinez
78	White	Stockton	154	Pinkham	Santa Cruz

Winner Distance

2nd..... 3rd..... 4th..... 5th.....

Event	Names and Places	Winning Time, Distance, or Height
Football throw	Raitt, Fullerton, first; Friedman, Santa Monica, second; (C.I.F. record) Manuel, Vacaville, third; Baird, Sanger, fourth.	220 ft.

RAITT SETS RECORD AS FULLERTON WINS

John Raitt, Fullerton High's great shot putter, hung up a new school record in his specialty yesterday as Fullerton was defeating Monrovia, 60 2-3 to 43 1-3, in a meet held on the victors' cinderpath. Raitt threw the iron ball 82ft. 7 3/4 in. The summary:

100-yard dash—Won by Christenson (F.) Baker (F.) Sophs (F.) Time, 10.5s.
 220-yard dash—Won by Hawkins (F.) Moore (M.) Sophs (F.) Time, 23.5s.
 440-yard dash—Won by Miller (F.) Madison (M.) Talcott (F.) Time, 52.3s.
 880-yard run—Won by DeJongh (F.) Zimmerman (M.) Fabs (F.) Time, 5m. 8.8s.
 Mile—Won by Hixon (F.) Clever (F.) Wells (M.) Time, 4m. 55.8s.
 Low hurdles—Won by Pressley (M.) Chamberlain (F.) France (M.) Time, 27.1s.
 High hurdles—Won by Lindell (M.) Pressley (M.) Colton (F.) Time, 18.1s.
 Relay—Won by Fullerton. Time, 1m. 34.5s.
 Shot put—Won by Raitt (F.) Lindell (M.) Falter (M.) Distance, 82ft. 7 3/4 in. (New school record.)
 Broad jump—Won by Lindell (M.) Christenson (F.) Chambers (F.) Distance, 21ft. 3 1/2 in.
 High jump—Won by Pressley (M.) tie for second between Baker (F.) Hayes (M.) Raitt (F.) Height, 6ft. 8 in.
 Pole vault—Tie for first between DeGroot (M.) McDonald (F.) Nash (F.) Height, 11ft.
 Final score—Fullerton, 60 2-3; Monrovia, 43 1-3.

RAITT SPIKE TRIPLE THREAT
 Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File), May 6, 1937:
 pg. A14

RAITT SPIKE TRIPLE THREAT

REDLANDS, May 5.—On the husky shoulders of John Raitt, holder of the Southern California Conference shot record, will rest the hopes of the University of Redlands for taking three first places in the all-conference track meet at San Diego Saturday.

Raitt will be one of seven Redlands trackmen in the competition under the direction of San Diego State College, but the sophomore iron man is expected to be the star of the group with firsts in the shot, discus and javelin events where he has not yet been beaten in league dual meets. Second in line for honors will be Truman Case, senior sprinter, who will endeavor to earn points in the 100 and 220 dashes, and in the broad jump.

Raitt Sets New Discus Record
 Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File), Mar 22, 1934:
 pg. A12

Raitt Sets New Discus Record

FULLERTON, March 21.—Fullerton's Indians scored high honors in a triangular track meet here today among Northern Orange county's three leading high schools. Coach Harold Lang's crew tallied 78 1/2 points, to 44 1/2 for Anaheim and 13 for Brea-Olinda.

The meet was featured by an exhibition discus throw event in which John Raitt of Fullerton established a new school record by tossing the platter an even 125ft. The former mark was held by "Tiny" Hartman, former Stanford star, at 124ft. 4 1/2 in. The summary:

80-yard run—Won by Calvin of Anaheim. Andrews of Brea-Olinda second. Koonis of Fullerton third. Douth of Fullerton fourth. Time, 2m. 10.5s.
 100-yard dash—Won by Stedman of Fullerton. Tate of Fullerton second. Miller of Fullerton third. Fee of Anaheim fourth. Time, 10.2s.
 120-yard high hurdles—Won by Berkeley of Fullerton. Chenoweth of Anaheim second. Deason of Anaheim third. Ruiz of Anaheim fourth. Time, 17.8s.
 220-yard dash—Won by Stedman of Fullerton. Tate of Fullerton second. Deason of Anaheim third, no fourth. Time, 23.5s.
 440-yard dash—Won by Schulte of Fullerton. Clarke of Fullerton second. Fee of Anaheim third. Ramase of Brea-Olinda fourth. Time, 52.4s.
 220-yard low hurdles—Won by Miller of Fullerton. Logston of Brea-Olinda second. Talcott of Fullerton third. Chenoweth of Anaheim fourth. Time, 27s.
 Mile run—Won by Ochoa of Anaheim. Deason of Fullerton second. Bush of Anaheim third. Walker of Anaheim fourth. Time, 4m. 59.7s.
 Relay—Won by Fullerton (forfeit).
 Shot put—Won by Raitt of Fullerton. Butler of Fullerton second. Brown of Anaheim third. Hildway of Fullerton fourth. Distance, 82ft. 7 3/4 in.
 Pole vault—Nash of Fullerton and Jones of Anaheim tied for first. Solisbee of Fullerton and Phelps of Brea-Olinda tied for third. Height, 10ft.
 Broad jump—Won by Kidd of Anaheim. Burns of Fullerton second. Ruiz of Anaheim third. Nickles of Anaheim fourth. Distance, 21ft. 1 1/2 in.
 Football throw—Won by Raitt of Fullerton. Kidd of Anaheim second. Oswald of Fullerton third. McLean of Brea-Olinda fourth. Distance, 188ft.
 High jump—Won by Berkeley of Fullerton. Nickles of Anaheim and Cox of Brea-Olinda tied for second. Easton of Brea-Olinda fourth. Height, 5ft. 9 in.
 Final score: Versley—Fullerton, 78 1/2; Anaheim, 44 1/2; Brea-Olinda, 13. CLASS B—Fullerton, 65; Anaheim, 53; Brea-Olinda, 9.

RAITT TO GO AFTER PREP TITLE
 Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File), May 16, 1935:
 pg. A14

RAITT TO GO AFTER PREP TITLE

Fullerton Star Overcomes
 Handicap of Weak Eyes
 to Star in Sports

Surmounting physical handicaps that might discourage a less hardy youth, John Raitt, Fullerton High's great shot putter, will be seeking his first Southern California championship Saturday at the Coliseum.

Raitt, whose elder brother scintillated at Fullerton several years ago, has weak eyes. He wears thick, horn-rimmed spectacles. If he takes 'em off he gets so dizzy he almost falls out of the putting ring.

Johnny's best mark this year is 84ft. 6 1/4 in., made in the Southern California preliminaries Saturday. He started off the season by heaving the 12-pound iron ball past the 82-foot line and has been lengthening this effort all year.

Raitt also can clear 6ft. in the high jump. His weak eyes prevent him from making a name for himself in football.

His duel with Ray Young of Rils Saturday should be a classic. Young is the defending Southern California and State champion whose best record is 55ft. 10 in., made last year. Young has been slow in rounding into shape because of an automobile accident. He has hit 83ft., however, and should be ready to "shoot the works" at the Coliseum.

Bay Loop Grid Title Annexed by Inglewood
 Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File), Nov 11, 1933; ProQuest
 pg. 7

FULLERTON WRECKS BURBANK GRIDDERS

FULLERTON, Nov. 10.—Led by an elusive end, Harold Stedman, Donald C. Cruickshank's Fullerton High School Indians defeated Jerry Ogborn's Burbank eleven, 45 to 0, here yesterday.

Stedman scored on runs of 45, 49 and 56 yards. He made several other long jaunts on end-around plays. Fullerton's other scores came through a deceptive passing attack with John Raitt on the receiving end of two. Pershing Hodson and George Johnson were on the receiving end of the two others. Joe Herbert, quarterback, engineered these drives with accurate tosses.

The line-up:

Fullerton (43)		Burbank (0)
Stedman	L.E.O.	Davies
Lesterborn	L.T.R.	Garry
Mayfield	L.G.R.	Funk
Whitfield	C.	Bruce
Ridgeway	R.G.L.	Ligh
Baabe	R.T.L.	Davidson
Johnson	R.E.L.	Johnson
Herbert	Q.	Petice
Jewett	L.H.R.	Peterson
Raitt	R.H.L.	McHenry
Burns	F.	McQuon

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Fullerton	13	13	12	45
Burbank	0	0	0	0

A JPL/UMMA
BROADWAY
MASTERWORKS

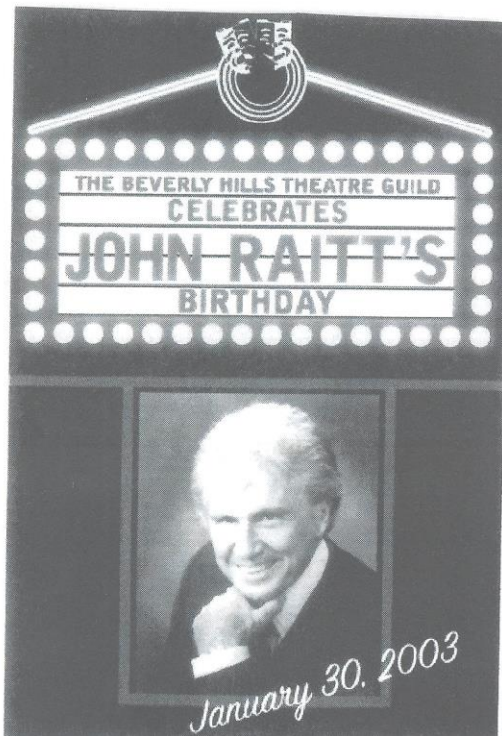
A Brilliant New Recording of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Greatest Hit

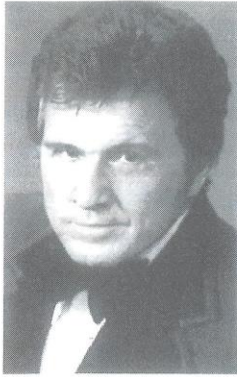
OKLAHOMA!

JOHN RAITT **FLORENCE HENDERSON**

Jack Elliott
New Orchestrations
by Philip J. Lang
Orchestra & Chorus
under direction of
FRANZ ALLERS

Ara Berberian
PHYLLIS NEWMAN
as
Ado Annie





John Emmett Raitt (born on 19 January, 1917 in Santa Ana, California, died 20 February, 2005, Pacific Palisades, California) was a star of the [musical theater stage](#).

Raitt got his start in theatre as a high school student at Fullerton High School, in Fullerton California. While there, he played in several drama productions in the Plummer Auditorium. Raitt sang in the chorus of "Desert Song." A few years before he died, Raitt once again came back to the Plummer to see a rehearsal, visit students and recollect his beginnings. He is on the school's "Hall of Fame" for his accomplishments.

He is best known for his stage roles in the musicals *Carousel*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Pajama Game*, *Carnival in Flanders*, and *A Joyful Noise*, in which he set the standard for virile, handsome, strong-voiced leading men during the golden age of the Broadway musical. His only leading film role was in the 1957 movie version of *The Pajama Game* opposite [Doris Day](#).

On television, he was seen many times on the *Bell Telephone Hour*. A clip of a television performance of Raitt singing the final section of the song "Soliloquy" from *Carousel* is included in the documentary film *Broadway: The Golden Age*, by the [Legends Who Were There](#). In 1957, also for television, he and [Mary Martin](#) re-created their starring roles in the national touring version of *Annie Get Your Gun*.

In 1945, John Raitt was one of the recipients of the first [Theatre World Award](#) for his debut performance in *Carousel*. In 1965, he starred in the twentieth-anniversary production of the show at [Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts](#).

In 1981, he found out that his high school sweetheart was widowed. Having recently divorced from his second wife, he phoned her. "Having played Zorba, I believe in grabbing at life," he recalled. "So I called her and this sweet voice answered. 'I'm free now,' I told her, 'and I'm coming to dinner.' They married.

He died on [February 20, 2005](#), at his home in [Pacific Palisades, California](#), from complications due to [pneumonia](#), aged 88. He has a star on the [Hollywood Walk of Fame](#) for Live Theatre.

He was the father of singer [Bonnie Raitt](#), and former father-in-law of [Michael O'Keefe](#). He was the grandfather of [Bay Raitt](#), the creator of [Gollum's face](#) for the [The Lord of the Rings film trilogy](#).

Biography

Renowned Broadway singer John Raitt (father to blues-rock singer/guitarist Bonnie Raitt) was born on January 19, 1917, in Santa Ana, CA, and began his singing career with the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera. From there, Raitt was signed by MGM, which led to appearances in stage productions of *Flight Command*, *Billy the Kid*, and *Ziegfeld Girl*. But it was his role as Curly in a national company of the musical *Oklahoma!* that brought Raitt to the attention of Rodgers and Hammerstein, who cast Raitt in perhaps his best-known role in 1945: the star of the long-running *Carousel* on Broadway. Raitt's performance (which included such now-Broadway standards as "If I Loved You" and "Soliloquy") led to numerous accolades, including being voted Best Performance of the Year By an Actor in a Musical by the New York Drama Critics. Subsequently, Raitt remained a star on Broadway, acting in numerous other productions, in addition to acting in film and TV and appearing on several soundtrack albums from his Broadway shows (*Carousel*, *The Pajama Game*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Show Boat*, etc.). Raitt's contributions to musical theater haven't gone unnoticed, as he has received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame at the Gershwin Theatre on Broadway. ~ Greg Prato ~ Greg Prato, All Music Guide



Born January 10, 1917
Died February 20, 2005