Eugene Wayne (or possibly Warren) Williams, son of Eugene R. and Helen May (Stanton) Williams, was born 10 May 1909 Plumstead, Cape Provence, South Africa. Eugene, youngest of four boys, was the son of 7-Day Adventist missionaries.

He graduated in 1925, at the tender age of 16, from Okemos High School.

Eugene Williams was the first celebrated athlete at Okemos.
Eugene R. Williams, born 16 September 1867 Utica, Oneida County, New York, married 31 August 1890 Park County, Montana, Miss Helen May Stanton. Helen was born 10 June 1968 Holt, Ingham County, Michigan. By 1900 the couple, with 3 young sons, were in Chippewa County, Michigan where Eugene was a clergyman.

The Williams family sailed and arrived as missionaries in South Africa 28 January 1908. They lived at Claremont, Cape Colony. The US Consulate prepared a "Certificate of Registration Of American Citizen" for Eugene but the certificate was never issued. The certificate's expiration date was 7 September 1910. Helen also had such a Consulate Certificate issued and with expiration date of 7 February 1914. Her certificate recorded the following; "Eugene R. Williams, who was born in Utica, N.Y. U.S.A. and is now deceased."

In 1914 widowed Helen and sons made on their way back to New York by way of two different ships. Helen, Lewis (born 1893) and Eugene (born 1909) left Liverpool, England aboard the ship Adriatic. They arrived in New York harbor 26 September 1914. The other two sons, Irwin (born 1891) and Hugh (born 1895), sailed from Southampton, England aboard the Olympic and arrived 26 March 1914 New York harbor.

Eugene accompanied his mother as she continued her work in the church. By 1918 Mrs. Williams was teaching in what is now called Silgo Adventist School in Takoma Park, D.C. The 1930 US Federal Census enumerated Mrs. Williams working in Latah County, Idaho and employed as a "district leader in local church activity." Helen Williams died 23 December 1940 Los Angeles County, California. She was interred Riverside Cemetery, Okemos.

Eugene came back to Michigan to go to school around 1920. His brother Erwin had married in Okemos in 1916 and settled in Meridian Township. Maternal family roots were deep in Ingham County. Mrs. Williams was a Stanton and her mother was a Stillman. The Stillman's had been in Ingham County for decades and held a large family reunion yearly in the Okemos area.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Saturday 10 August 1918. Eugene even had an aunt, Elisabeth "Libbie" Stanton Gregg, who kept close touch with her sister and her nephews. Libbie lived in the Holt, Ingham County area. Eugene may have lived with Irwin and wife Blanche because his home address was always given as Okemos. Irwin was the only brother that lived for any length of time in the Okemos area.
After graduation in 1925 Eugene went on to graduate from Michigan State College. He was mentioned in several Lansing State Journal newspaper articles as a member of the MSC Track Team and the MSC, Central Inter-Collegiate Cross-County Championship Team. Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Tuesday 3 August 1926 and Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Monday 12 Sept, 1927. He was also listed as a track team member in the MSC Wolverine yearbook 1927 and 1928.

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Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Wednesday 16 Jun 1926
Two Lansing Athletes Get Honors in Athletic Elections At State College

Two former Lansing High school sprinters were elected to track captaincies at Michigan State college, Tuesday, when Frederick P. Alderman was chosen as leader of next year's Spartan track team, and Lyle Henson was named honorary captain of the present freshman thinclad outfit. Henson graduated from Lansing in 1924 and entered Michigan State in the fall of 1925. Alderman competed for the Big Reds in 1922 and became a Spartan in 1923. Both Henson and Alderman are members of the Columbian Literary society.

Fourteen men were given major letters in track, and 12 in baseball. It was announced Wednesday by Ralph H. Young, director of athletics at Michigan State. In addition to these awards, the college gave 49 numerals to freshmen in four different sports—track, baseball, tennis and fencing—and 52 service sweaters both to freshmen and members of the varsity squads. Eight minor sport letters were also awarded.

For the first time in the history of the institution awards were made in fencing. This is now a recognized minor sport at the college. The fencing team boasts a victory over the University of Michigan. Yussef Waffe of Cairo, Egypt, was the captain and star of the team.

varsity track letters—Captain Bohn Grim, Sturgis; Clarence E. Ripper, Wells; Lloyd B. Kotts, Kalamazoo; Daniel M. Van Noppen, Nes; Horace L. Thomas, East Lansing; Floyd A. Harper, Middleville; Horace Parley, Albion; Frederick P. Alderman, Lansing; Paul M. Smith, Saginaw; Henry E. Wylie, Sparta; Ivan G. Tillotson, Petoskey; Thomas A. Belt, Detroit; Russell R. Lord, Owosso.

Track service sweaters—R. Neil Barney, Watervliet; Grant B. Keesler, Owosso; Frank N. Gowan, East Lansing; Arthur W. Otterburn, Elkton; Harry E. Rush, Watervliet; Max C. Hilton, Coldwater; Roy W. Severance, Deckerville; Herrick Waterman, Grand Rapids; Clyde T. Mattison, Petoskey; Phillip T. Holz, Coldwater; Francis C. Miller, Traverse City; Bryan C. McCullough, Bay City; Richard R. Oehmicke, Milwaukee; Lazell J. Wall, Lansing.

Varsity baseball letters—Captain Harold C. Keibler, Manchester; Perry J. Remont, Bad Axe; Harry E. Wakefield, Bad Axe; George W. Kuhn, Vicksburg; Roy P. Spiekerman, Saginaw; Don R. Haskins, Grand Rapids; Carl D. Baynes, Birmingham; Gail A. Rowley, Lansing; Delmar M. Zimmerman, Traverse City; Donald W. Fleeter, Allegan; Albert T. Tolles, Bangor; Forrest A. Rainhart, East Lansing.

Baseball service sweaters—Robert K. Bremer, Howell; Maurice R. Caldwell, Imlay City; John I. Caruso, Owosso; Russell J. Davis, Frankfort; Oliver Z. Hood, Ionia; John W. Kelly, Grand Haven; George W. Macier, Richmond.

Freshman baseball numerals—Dell Blackman, Jackson; George W. Bradford, Baldwin; Curtis Beachum, Shelby; Fred W. Barratt, Lansing; Lisle Conklin, Detroit; Theodore W. Cornoron, Alpena; Fred K. Daziger, Detroit; Virgil Kelly, Perry; Harry J. Morgan, Rochester; Kenneth A. Moco, Detroit; Verl E. Runner, Shelby; Theosio R. Schaffer, Eaton Rapids; Donald Waller, Plymouth; Douglas A. Watkins, Manchester; Gordon L. Witter, Detroit.

Freshman baseball service sweaters—James V. Archer, Benton Harbor; William H. Fitzgerald, Caro; Martin Carn, Charlotte; Melvin D. Loese, Springville; Verle Milbourne, Eaton Rapids; Burton R. Niemeyer, Caledonia; Raymond Paul, Manchester; Elwyn Titsworth, Flint; Stanley R. Weed, Portland.

Freshman track numerals—Fred W. Barratt, Lansing; Meredith G. Clark, Vicksburg; R. Earnest Deacon, Lansing; Deland H. Davis, Battle Creek; Burgoyne A. Diller, Battle Creek; H. Lyle Henson, Lansing; Lewis H. Hackney, Flint; Joseph L. Joachim, St. Clair; Pierre M. Kenyon, Plymouth; William H. Kroll, Detroit; L. Dale Lamkin, Good Heart; Alvin A. La Frant, Eau Claire; Forrest J. Langbeaven, Harold L. McAlley, Milford; Albert M. McCabe, Petoskey; Richard C. Maples, Springville; Robert C. Olson, Owosso; Clarence Pasin, Grand Rapids; Lorwyn E. Pederson, Brooklyn; Victor H. Rossman, Eaton Rapids; Leonard H. Schaar, Lansing; Walter H. Sheldon, Alger; Eugene W. Williams, Okemos; Theodore E. Willmarth, Detroit.
E.W. Williams, Okemos, Sophomore, Varsity Cross-Country, is named for "High Praise for Performance of Athletes". Williams team won the first running of the Central Inter-Collegiate cross-country run.

Twenty-five freshman football players, headed by the varsity and freshman teams, Six cross-country men who helped Michigan State to a clean cut victory in the first running on the Central Inter-Collegiate cross-country run were also honored with minor letter.

Coach Young Announces List of Men Winning ’S' and Has High Praise for Performance of Athletes; 25 Yearlings Are Voted Numerals for Season’s Work

Twenty-one of the thirty football players who were named for "High Praise for Performance of Athletes" were awarded numerals for the coming season. Coach Young announced that the remaining nine would be named later.

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 12. (Field News).—The Yale News disapproves of the suggestion that an association of eastern college football teams be formed to defend, initiate, or believe in the right to play, and the proposal that colleges and universities will favor it, we oppose the scheme on the general principle that it must inevitably commercialize collegiate football at the expense of the game.

Championships and prizes are not the goal of Yale football. Victory is an end in itself, and the tradition of Yale football has been upheld by its desire to win. The Yale News, therefore, deems such a scheme to be unwise and undesirable. The Editors of the Yale News.
By 1930 Eugene was with his mother in Idaho but the 1940 US Federal Census enumerated him in Sonoma County, California, married, with one son and in a physicians residency program. Eugene served in the US Army as an MD during World War II, 1942-1945. He later practiced in Nevada and in Michigan. Eugene married Ethel Blanche Cates. Ethel, born 12 June 1909 Kiowa County, Oklahoma, died October 1989 Maricopa County, Arizona.

Eugene retired to Arizona. He died 25 October 1974 and was interred Sunland Memorial Park, Sun City, Maricopa County.

Unknown source:

**WILLIAMS, Eugene W.**


_Wickenburg --_ Eugene W. Williams, a medical doctor 37 years, died Friday, Oct. 25, 1974, in Boswell Memorial Hospital, Sun City. Wife, Ethel; son, Eugene R.; a brother out of state; and two grandchildren. Burial in Sunland Memorial Park. 10/28/1974.

--- Sherrie Paty Barber, OHS 1966