



Bonnie Ooten Ireson

May 12, 2026

Appalachia, Virginia

Bonnie Ooten Ireson, 86, passed away quietly in her sleep on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 after lengthy health issues. She graduated from Lenore High School in W.V., and met her future husband shortly thereafter. The small, young family moved to Appalachia, VA in 1971. Bonnie was involved in various groups supporting her children including the PTA, Little League, AHS Band, Baseball, and of course The Football Dawgs. In 1975 she was asked to serve on the Bicentennial Committee for the Town of Appalachia. After the celebration, the committee was changed to the Special Projects Committee. They planned the town's annual Coal/Railroad Days celebration as well as the yearly Christmas parade. Bonnie served as the president of the group for many years. Her favorite place was Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Big Stone Gap, VA. Being with her church family made her happy. She was preceded in death by husband of 57 years, Herbert D. Ireson, Jr.

Bonnie is survived by her children, Dennis (Vickie) Ireson, Denise Lester, Michael (Michelle) Ireson; grandchildren, Morgan (Whitney) Ireson, Beth Ireson, Cody (Brittany) Lester, Logan Lester, Kimberly (Gleason) Holt, Emily (DJ Twitty) Ireson, Alex Ireson; great-grandchildren, Caden Ireson, Daphne Ireson, Scarlett Lester, Violet Lester, Jaiden Lester, Henry Holt.

The Ireson family will receive friends from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 15, 2026 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Big Stone Gap, VA. A rosary service will begin at 11:30 with a funeral mass being held immediately afterward with Father Richie and Father Drake officiating. Procession will follow to Powell Valley Memorial Gardens for burial. In lieu of flowers, please consider a making a donation to Sacred Heart Catholic Church (1821 Holton Ave E. Big Stone Gap, VA 24219).

Cemetery Details

Powell Valley Memorial Gardens

5650 Powell Valley Rd
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219
(276) 679-0030

Upcoming Events

Receive Friends

MAY 15. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Big Stone Gap, VA

Service

MAY 15. 11:30 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Big Stone Gap, VA

Funeral Service

MAY 15. 12:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Big Stone Gap, VA

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *John Fraley lit a candle in memory of Bonnie Ooten Ireson*



John Fraley - 6 minutes ago

SK

“ *Sharon Kindle lit a candle in memory of Bonnie Ooten Ireson*



Sharon Kindle - 32 minutes ago

LT

“ *Lynne Tull lit a candle in memory of Bonnie Ooten Ireson*



Lynne Tull - 3 hours ago

LK

“ *Lisa Kirk lit a candle in memory of Bonnie Ooten Ireson*



Lisa Kirk - 3 hours ago