



Bonnie J. Smith

June 13, 1939 - January 30, 2026

Bonnie J. Smith, 86, of Peoria, peacefully passed away with her family by her side, on Friday, January 30, 2026, in Peoria. She was born in Havana on June 13, 1939, to Fred and Dorothea (Hight) Logsdon. She married Chester Eelsey on June 18, 1955. She later married Orville Smith on November 1, 1975, in East Peoria; he preceded her in death on November 26, 2001.

She was also preceded in death by her grandson, Joshua; two brothers; one half-brother; and one half-sister.

Surviving are her three sons, Richard (Sherry) Eelsey of Columbia, TN, David (Julie) Eelsey of Peoria and Scott Eelsey of Peoria; half-brothers, Art (Jackie) Woolard of East Peoria and Fred Logsdon of Elmwood; and 2 grandchildren, Nathan and Amanda.

Bonnie enjoyed a long and fulfilling career working as a hostess at several Peoria restaurants, such as Holiday Inn, Sky Harbor, and Mr. Donut. Known for her friendly, personable nature, she never met a stranger and had a special talent for making quick connections with those she served. Over time, she built lasting relationships with many loyal customers.

Bonnie enjoyed tending her flower garden and was an avid sports fan, enthusiastically supporting the Cardinals and Bulls, but above all, she loved being a grandma and was very active in her grandchildren's lives.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Private family services in Havana will be held at a later date. Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria is assisting the family.

Memorial donations may be given to the Alzheimer's Association or Transitions Hospice. Bonnie's family would like to thank their caregivers for the excellent care they provided her over the years. Online condolences may be left at www.GaryDeitersFH.com

Tribute Wall

DH

“ You were my favorite sister in law..We always had fun when we could get together..one memory comes to mind..We didn't have a lot of money..but we caught the bus to Peoria..and window shopped at all the high dollar stores..trying on their hats and being silly..and finished it off with a fountain coke and a bus ride back home....what I would give to have one more coke with you Bonnie..and one more bus ride..til we meet again..

Doris Huskisson - February 11 at 04:17 PM