



## Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen

July 27, 1931 - August 23, 2025

Our sweet treasure, Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen, of Blacksburg, Virginia, chose August 23, 2025, as the day that she would finally just rest. Having celebrated her 94th birthday weeks earlier, Maurie was in good spirits and driving her own train until the very end. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister, and the love of her life, Trent, who she married in 1952, shortly after meeting him on a blind date. She is survived by her 3 children: Beth Howell (Wayne), Trish Snow (Sam), and Rodney Bowen (Adair). She is also survived by nine adored grandchildren, ten treasured great-grandchildren and her special companions, Michelle and Tigerlily.

Maurie was born in the upstairs bedroom at her grandmother's house in Gatesville, North Carolina on a steamy July morning in 1931. She spent her childhood summers at her grandparents' farm in Gates County, NC, playing with her sister and their friend, Doc, in the cypress swamps near the Chowan River. Maurie's parents were both college-educated and she grew up a block off the campus of North Carolina State University where her father taught horticulture. She told stories of walking to her daddy's lab at "the college" after church on Sundays where he would put on a magician's hat and mix chemicals to produce smoke, bubbles, colors, and other "magic". She and her sister learned all about plants and soil, antiques, fishing and all the wonders of nature from their beloved Daddy. She always called her mother, "Mother", from whom she learned sewing, self-reliance, her love of reading and crochet,

and how to make the most wonderful applesauce.

Maurie was an RN, graduating from the Watts Hospital School of Nursing in 1952. She happily worked as a nurse, putting Trent through law school at Duke in the early years of their marriage and later working at the Children's Rehab Hospital in Charlottesville, VA. She and Trent enjoyed golfing and snow skiing and incorporated both into their love of travel whenever possible. They traveled cross country multiple times, first in a 1968 Volkswagen and later in their motor homes. Their motor home adventures included trips to Alaska, Australia, New Zealand and Europe.

Maurie loved quilting, crafting, sewing and reading. She made holiday dresses and vests for her grandchildren and then great-grandchildren and countless baby quilts throughout the years. She was so looking forward to the start of the next college football and basketball seasons. She was known for her elaborate hand-written charts to track each weekend's game schedule for all of her favorite teams so she would not miss any of the action.

Maurie will be remembered for her treasured relationships and her amazing love for all her family and friends. Everywhere she went, she developed deep, true relationships and friendships. Everyone who knew her will miss her forever and simply be grateful for the chance to know her and love her.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, August 29, 2025, at 10:30 am at the Village Center at Warm Hearth Village. The family will receive friends following the service. In keeping with her generous nature, Maurie has donated her body to medical science. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes in her honor can be sent to The Warm Hearth Foundation or the Virginia Wildlife Center.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG **29**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Warm Hearth Village Center  
2387 Warm Hearth Drive  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

# Tribute Wall



“ *OMG, no wonder she hasn't been answering my texts since August 8th. I was her next door neighbor for a few years while my husband was in Kroontje. We checked on each other regularly. When Trent passed away, she asked me to help her find a feline companion, so I took her to the animal shelter and made sure her wish came true right down to the age and color of her new furry friend. For the past year, since I moved to Lynchburg, we stayed in touch. I know she was having some difficulties lately. I'm so sorry for your loss. She was a lovely person and clearly much loved by all who knew her. Sincerely, Mary Ellen Jones.*

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**MaryEllen Jones** - September 11, 2025 at 01:56 PM

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“ *Dave Harris and Family purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen.*



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**Dave Harris and Family** - August 28, 2025 at 07:38 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen.*

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August 28, 2025 at 09:46 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen.*



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August 28, 2025 at 09:46 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen.*



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August 28, 2025 at 08:51 AM



“ *Vivian and I are very sorry for the loss of your mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She was a very warm and caring person and was always in good spirits. We need more people like her in this world.*

*Aunt Laurie and Uncle Trent could always be counted on to visit family members. They visited my parents while they were living with us and while they lived in assisted living in Spartanburg. Their visits always made my parents' day.*

*We had a chance to drop by and spend some time with Aunt Laurie a couple of years ago, and we went out to lunch with her. We are so glad we had that chance to see her. We will miss her warmth and laughter.*

*Love,  
Turl and Vivian Bowen*

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**Turl Bowen** - August 26, 2025 at 09:52 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen.*



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August 26, 2025 at 03:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lawrence "Maurie" Piland Bowen.

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August 26, 2025 at 03:24 PM