

Burl Icle Ivanhoe Ives (June 14, 1909 – April 14, 1995). Died 1995, at his home in [Anacortes, Washington](#), at age 85.^[42]

His radio show, *The Wayfaring Stranger*, popularized traditional [folk](#) songs.

Best known songs:

- The Blue-tailed Fly (1947) with the Andrews Sisters
- Lavender Blue (1949)
- The Big Rock Candy Mountain (1947)
- A Little Bitty Tear (1962) with the Anita Kerr Singers
- Funny Way of Laughin' (1962) with the Anita Kerr Singers
- Call Me Mister In-Between (1962) with the Anita Kerr Singers
- A Holly Jolly Christmas (1964)
- Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer (1964)

Best known movie roles

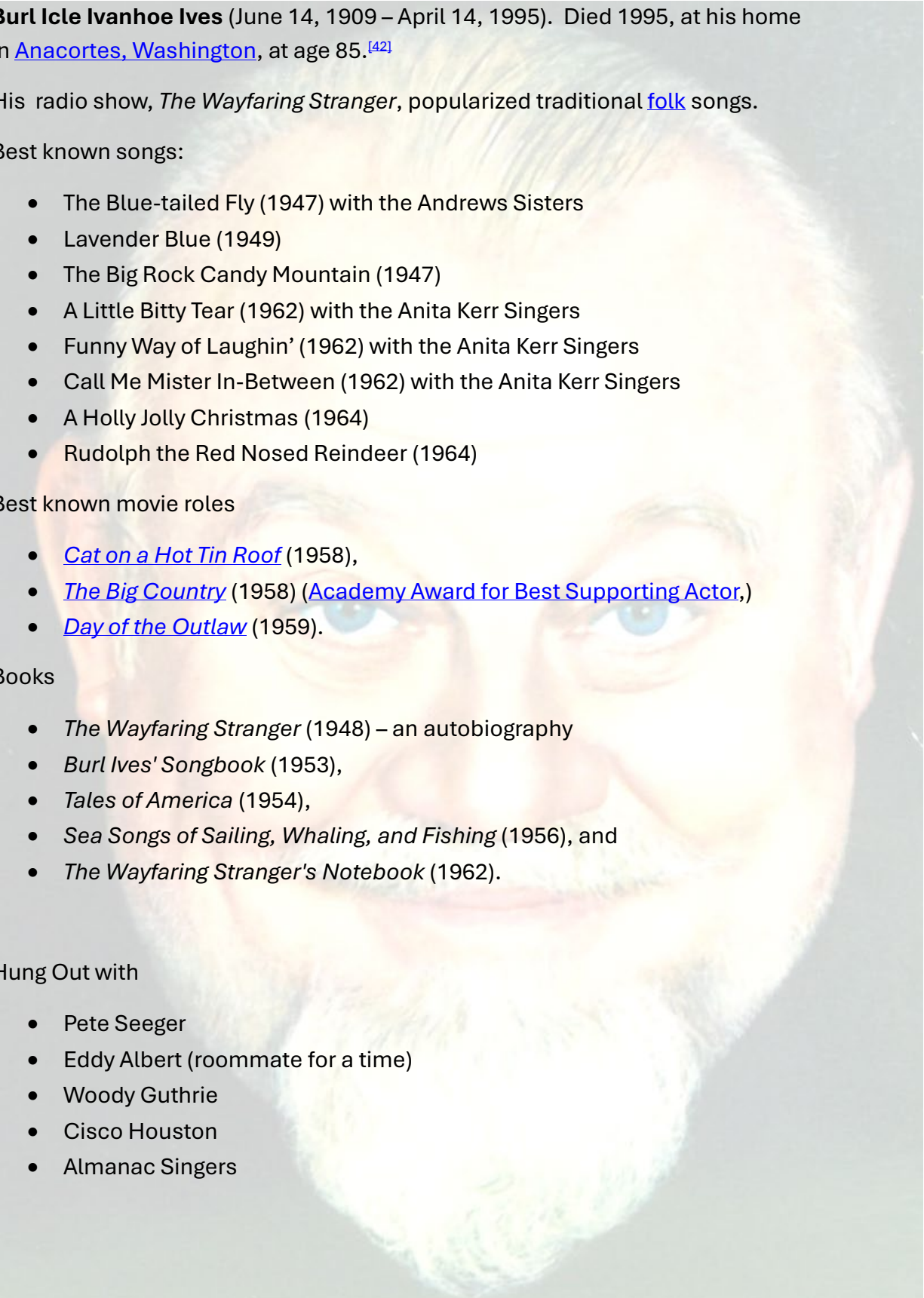
- [Cat on a Hot Tin Roof](#) (1958),
- [The Big Country](#) (1958) ([Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor](#)),
- [Day of the Outlaw](#) (1959).

Books

- *The Wayfaring Stranger* (1948) – an autobiography
- *Burl Ives' Songbook* (1953),
- *Tales of America* (1954),
- *Sea Songs of Sailing, Whaling, and Fishing* (1956), and
- *The Wayfaring Stranger's Notebook* (1962).

Hung Out with

- Pete Seeger
- Eddy Albert (roommate for a time)
- Woody Guthrie
- Cisco Houston
- Almanac Singers



Foggy Foggy Dew (1949)

F F7 Bb G7 C7 C7 C
F F7 Bb G7
When I was a bachelor I lived all alone
C7 F
I worked at the weaver's trade
F F7 Bb G7
And the only, only thing that I did that was wrong
C7 F
Was to woo a fair young maid

[Chorus]

C7 F
I wooed her in the winter time
C7 F
Part of the summer too
F F7 Bb G7
And the only, only thing that I did that was wrong
C7 F
Was to keep her from the foggy, foggy dew

One night she knelt close by my side
When I was fast asleep
She threw her arms around my neck
And then began to weep

She wept, she cried, she tore her hair
Ah, me, what could I do?
So all night long, I held her in my arms
Just to keep her from the foggy, foggy dew

Again I am a bachelor, I live with my son
We work at the weaver's trade
And every single time that I look into his eyes
He reminds me of that fair young maid

He reminds me of the wintertime
Part of the summer too
And of the many, many times that I held her in my arms
Just to keep her from the foggy, foggy dew

Funny Way Of Laughing (1962)

It's just my funny way of laughing
Yes, my funny way of laughing
Your leavin' didn't bother me
It's just my funny way of laughing
Yes, my funny way of laughing
I'm really happy as can be

If you see me with a great big smile
At some party where the fun runs wild
If tears start to flow and I fall apart
Please don't think you broke my heart

CHORUS

If we meet on the street
And a little bitta tear rolls down my cheek
Please don't think it's because I'm blue
Or that I'm still in love with you

CHORUS

Remember the day you left our place
And how the tears rolled down my face
It wasn't because you were leavin' me
I was happy because you were pleasing me
It's just my funny way of laughing

CHORUS

Funny way of laughing, laughing
Funny way of laughing, laughing

A Little Bitty Tear (1962)

A little bitty tear let me down,
spoiled my act as a clown
I had it made up not make a frown, but a little bitty
tear let me down.

You said you were leaving tomorrow
That today was our last day
I said there'd be no sorrow, that I'd laugh when you
walked away.

CHORUS

I said I'd laugh when you left me
Pull a funny as you went out the door
That I'd have another waiting
And I'd wave goodbye as you go.

CHORUS

Everything went like a planned it
And really put on quite a show
In my heart I felt I could stand it
Till you walked with your *grip* through the door.

CHORUS

A little bitty tear let me down.