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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

IVES EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY AT EIU

CHARLESTON -- Eastern Illinois University is paying tribute to the memory of Burl Ives in an exhibit on display through mid-June in the north foyer of Eastern's Booth Library.

Ives, beloved folk singer, stage and screen personality, award-winning actor, recording artist and Eastern's most famous alumnus, died April 14 at his home in Anacortes, Wash.

The exhibit, open to the public, contains more than 20 of Ives' personal belongings he and his wife, Dorothy, donated to Eastern and about a dozen photographs, including one of the 1928 Eastern State Teachers College football team. Ives was a top-notch lineman for the team and helped Eastern win a conference championship in 1928.

The exhibit can be viewed during library hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. The library will be closed May 28-29, June 4 and June 10-11.

Since library hours vary during the summer, individuals may wish to call the

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library hotline at 581-6423 for specific hours.

The exhibit includes a book of Ives' anecdotes, poems, song lyrics and stories gathered from his extensive travels. The book, *The Wayfaring Stranger's Notebook*, was published in 1962 and contains Ives' reflections and observations on life in rural America and other matters.

Also included are a 1953 songbook of Ives' popular and less well-known folk songs, a hat and jacket worn in 1978 for his portrayal of Heidi's grandfather in the made-for-television version of *The New Adventures of Heidi*, another jacket, several scarves and a beret worn by Ives and a collection of Boy Scouts of America uniform items and other memorabilia. Ives was active with the Boy Scouts during the 1971, 1977 and 1981 national jamborees.

The guitar Ives used in his role as Peter Beasley for his 1969 guest appearance on the television series, *Daniel Boone*, and a pair of his cowboy boots also are displayed.

Ives, who attended Eastern from 1927-30, returned to his alma mater several times, for benefit performances and other acts of kindness.

In 1985, Ives was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Eastern.

In 1990, when the Burl Ives Art Studio Hall was dedicated, Ives came to Eastern to present a special benefit performance.

The following year, he and his wife gave the university a collection of his recordings and memorabilia, including the guitar he played in several movies and the suit he wore as Big Daddy in "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."