

Hi Ernie,

As promised, here is Ashokan Farewell on the violin with piano. Please excuse the look of confusion I have in the video. It's a habitual expression when I play stringed instruments.

I've prepared a speech to go along with the song to cover up the violin intonation problems that the piano couldn't cover up. Please read aloud.

Ernie: congratulations on your retirement. Many of us did not think you'd ever leave the nuclear plant because truth be known, it may not run without you. I'm glad I had the privilege to work with you those 5 years. You made waking up at 4:30am everyday for work not so miserable. I'm thankful for you looking out for me in various ways such as avoiding beeper duty by not signing off on those PRA quals for years. There are so many examples I know of and probably even more that I don't know. You were just really fun to work with.

Work aside, in your character I learned how to give and care generously without strings attached. I learned how to think through processes. I learned it's okay to talk about failures instead of hiding them, otherwise, you'll never learn from them. Whether you know it or not, you've made such an impact in my life and in so many others that were lucky enough to call you "friend."

I remember my first day at work, you asked if I wanted to join the band and if I could sing parts. If our paths cross again, I'm still up for the band or singing parts.

Your friend,
Alice