

FAREWELL RITUAL

Sisters, we are gathered together once again, this time to say farewell to (member name), who is transferring from (chapter name) to (chapter name). You, (member name), will always be part of our chapter because, “She who looks on a true friend, looks upon a kind of image of herself: Wherefore friends, though absent, are still present.”

As your circle of sisters and love’s bonds grow in your heart and mind, this sisterhood will teach you the ways of love and the art of life. Your presence in (chapter name) has been one of beauty, grace, and light. Your gift to our chapter will remain forever. Love, Truth, and Beauty are the symbols of our never-ending sisterhood.

These 8 candles before you will no longer be in darkness. If you have knowledge, let others light their candles at it.

1. Do more than exist – Live
2. Do more than look – Absorb
3. Do more than listen – Understand
4. Do more than touch --- Love
5. Do more than talk – Communicate
6. Do more than think – Act
7. Do more than read – Learn
8. Do more than take – Share

These burning flames symbolize the shining achievements you leave behind and will light the way to eternity. Speech cannot contain our love; you ARE, you will ALWAYS BE our sister.

Please accept this remembrance of (chapter name).

Okinawa Gamma

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Sisters, in (chapter name):

We are taking this opportunity to extend heartfelt good wishes and good fortune to our sister(s), (name of advancing member or members), who have achieved the high honor of _____ degree in Beta Sigma Phi.

With grateful hearts, we will ponder in our memories (her/their) unique and individual contributions to (chapter name). Together with (her/them), we have lived and learned, and our ability for greater efforts in friendship has been enhanced through the experience.

Remember, sisters, that although we share a poignant sense of loss, we also may have a share in (her/their) new high level of achievement in this way; the void created by (her/their) progression can only be filled by (her/their) example. We, in (chapter name), will have you, (name of advancing member or members), as (a) true exemplar(s), to look to as an example, to light the way for those of us who follow you.

(Name of advancing member or members), as we wish you Godspeed on your new adventure, will you be to us, your sisters in (chapter name), (a) special example(s) of vision, of spirit and of purpose? If so, answer: "I will."

(Members join hands and repeat together) – "May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from the other."

by Maureen Donlon