**15310, Barbara Hardy**

Good Evening Everyone

I want to thank you Dean \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for hosting this retirement party to celebrate my Dad’s retirement from the University of Arizona after 40 years. We have a wonderful venue here at this historic hotel restaurant \_\_\_\_\_. I want to thank our family and friends, as well as Dad’s colleagues and former students for being here tonight to share in the festivities. Retirement never really seemed like it would happen, but he has at last retired.

Most of you know that Dad is a professor of Pharmacy and has been voted educator of the year by his students multiple times. He is respected by colleagues and loved by students. Dad has a very strong work ethic. He has worked 6 days a week for 40 years and has a great reputation at school and within in scientific community. But what you may not know is that Dad began working at a pharmacy when he was 12 years of age delivering medicine. He’s going to continue that work as a professor emeritus position at the university and will continue to advise graduate students. That way he can continue to do work that is such an important part of his life.

My Dad is very intelligent and is an avid reader. You might not realize this but he is, for the most part, introverted. His leadership qualities tend to hide that fact. You probably do know just how smart and accomplished he is. I have always wanted to be as smart as my Dad. You’ve probably guessed just how much I love and respect my Dad and how I admire his hard work, He’s done it all for his family. He is absolutely in love with his three granddaughters. I learned a long time ago that he shows his love by taking care of us. He loves NY and the home he built in upstate NY. He never complains and would do anything for his children.

I remember when I was a young girl that I loved to listen to him lecture. I’d get terribly upset if I sensed his students weren’t listening. Sometimes on Saturdays I would go to work with him and we’d talk on the drive down. He use to tell me a story about a time when Dad was taking a blood sample, his own, that had something to do with heparin. I’m not sure if Dad took it or not. I told my friend, whose father was also in pharmacy that my dad was taking heroin and she told her dad. He told that to his students every year and they had a great laugh over it.

I don’t mean to seem over the top, but I really love and respect my Dad. He has lived a life that truly sets an example for his students as well as his family. He may be officially retired, but as professor emeritus he will continue to pass his knowledge and work ethic to colleagues, students and family.

Happy Retirement Dad