

Living Tribute

Caution if oxygen is in use nearby

(Lead RN places RN lamp and lights the candle) (Note: Do not light if nurse is on oxygen.)

(You may use up to three readers or as many as you wish with this service.)

(Reader 1) The Wisconsin Nurses Honor Guard would like to thank Nurse _____, his/her family, friends, and colleagues for inviting us here today to help celebrate his/her life and nursing career. Nursing is a profession and a calling. The nurses who are gathered here today honor you, Nurse _____, as you will be remembered for your years of service, and the difference you made during those years, just by entering into people's lives at significant moments.

Your caring heart, compassion, guidance, support and medical knowledge have been a blessing to the nursing profession and professional nursing practice. You gave comfort where there was pain, courage where there was fear, hope where there was despair, and acceptance when the end was near. Always with a gentle touch of tenderness, patience, and love.

(Reader 2) We now invite any fellow nurses here today to stand in honor of Nurse _____ while we read the Nightingale Pledge/Poem. (Read pledge or poem, have them sit after the reading)

(Reader 3) Nurse _____, as a nurse, you brought comforting moments to each one of your patients, becoming a shining light in moments of darkness. The bright shining light of the Nightingale lamp represents this same comfort.

This lamp symbolizes knowledge and is the light of your nursing career. Nurse _____, we thank you for your contributions to the profession of nursing. Though your nursing tasks are complete, they will never be forgotten.

Nurse _____, the white rose symbolizes all that nursing stands for, comfort, kindness, gentleness, courage, and unwavering devotion to duty. We present this in appreciation of being our colleague.

It has been the Wisconsin Nurses Honor Guard's privilege to express our respect for you as a nurse and our gratitude for the care you have given others. Thank you for letting us honor you today.

(Extinguish the flame if lit.)