

Dear Friends,

As a lot of you know, I accepted a position in the Indiana University Fort Wayne Dental Education Department a couple of years ago. I was appointed Director of the Dental Clinic and Clinical Assistant Professor. I have enjoyed this experience and dental education has become very important to me. Recently I was appointed Director of Dental Education overseeing all three programs we have here in Fort Wayne. This includes Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting and Dental Lab Technology. This was not expected and a rather large increase in my already lengthy list of responsibilities.

I am excited about this new position and the challenges that it brings. Unfortunately, I feel it is necessary for me to stop seeing patients on Wednesdays. I have found that it is too difficult to focus fully on both positions. I have always wanted to do my best, and the extra responsibilities have made it a challenge for me to meet these expectations. I know this is rather sudden and I am sorry to all of you who took the time to make your appointments on Wednesdays. This journey has been one of the joys of my life and I am so happy some of you have shared it with me. I consider all of you my friends and thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

My last day will be Wednesday May 29, 2024, but the reality is I am not disappearing. I will be around every now and then when Dr. Chase needs someone to cover for him. Dr. Chase Ellinwood will be taking over the practice and the day-to-day operations. I am very proud of the dentist he has developed into, and I hope all of you appreciate his dental talent and similar (to his dad) chairside manner. Our dental practice was built on your kind referrals and the caring environment our dental team has been able to foster.

I would love to take the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to my wonderful patients! Please feel free to stop by the office for an Open House Farewell on Wednesday August 7th from 2-5pm if you're able.

A special thanks to all of you, our friends, to the wonderful team members I have provided care with for all these years, and to my family for this great journey in life.

Thanks,

Dr. Steve Ellinwood