

karl's going-away party /4/ emotional rescue

Roberts said he **would have preferred** a heartfelt and **sincere** send-off **to the one** that he received. "I **guess** people **were too busy enjoying themselves** to **get** sentimental," Roberts said. "I wasn't expecting sobs, but I **don't think** anyone **even got misty**. People **gave me goodbye hugs**, but they weren't 'we'll miss you'-type hugs. Twice, I was **lifted off the ground** and **swung** around in circles. It was nice to see such a strong **outpouring of emotion**, I guess, but I wasn't expecting so much **whooping** and **hollering**." "I heard they eventually **got a call** from the retirement center across the street **because of** all the noise," Roberts added.

In spite of his **uneasy** feelings **about** the office-wide **blowout**, Roberts said he is **looking forward to continuing** his career **at** Quad-State Shipping. "I'm **excited** by the **challenges facing** me at Quad-State," Roberts said. "They need a new dress code and lunch policy. Somebody has to **crack down on** the time-clock **violations**. And **sick days** and personal days **seem to be overlapping in** an unacceptable way. But, with a little discipline and **attention to detail**, I'll **whip the place into shape**." "Ames was great," Roberts added. "But I admit that I'm looking forward to a change. The new environment will **provide** a chance to not only **move on** in my career, but also **make** new friends."