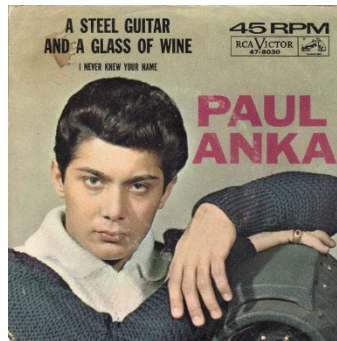


# YOU HEARD IT HERE

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## A Steel Guitar and a Glass of Wine

Paul Anka with Ray Ellis and his Orchestra

Finding songs to write about is always interesting as you come across artists and songs you have never heard or heard of. This is a case where the artist is known to me but never heard the song. **A Steel Guitar and a Glass of Wine**, performed by Paul Anka, was released in May of 1962. The song is a snappy up-tempo number about a young man pining and mourning over a love that is no more. *"A love he thought was true to me, but now I'm drinking to her memory"* is the motivation for this song. The irony to me is that a steel guitar does not appear in this song at all. The song lyrics are self-explanatory (shared below), but Anka has quite the story and history.

Paul Anka was born in 1941 in Ottawa, Ontario. He was doing impressions at age 12 and was stealing the family car by age 14 to drive to singing contests and was also writing his own songs. He had a small recorded hit in Canada titled **"I Confess"**. It wasn't until he traveled to New York with a group known as the Rover Boys that he got his big break. He had a chance to audition for Don Costa of ABC where he sang his composition, **"Diana"**, about one of his former babysitters. The song was released in 1957 and at the age of 16, Anka hit number 3 on the charts! The rest, as they say, is history. The next year he had four songs in the top 20!

In 1959 he released **"Put Your Head on My Shoulder"** and **"Puppy Love"**, two of his biggest hits - **Puppy Love** would become a big hit also for Donny Osmond in the 70's. Anka continued to adapt and moved into films and T.V. as well. An interesting fact is that he wrote the theme for Johnny Carson's Tonight show, Tom Jones' hit, **"She's a Lady"** and assisted in rewriting a French song which became Frank Sinatra's **"My Way."**

I could write forever as he has a very extensive career and catalog, but you can explore that on your own. Below are the lyrics, a link to the song **A Steel Guitar and a Glass of Wine** as well as a Wikipedia link. The video is a performance of this number on the Ed Sullivan show. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44RDcVzFVo>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul\\_Anka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Anka)

### LYRICS:

Just give me a steel guitar and a glass of wine And let me drink to a love I thought was mine. A love I thought was true to me But now I'm drinking to her memory. A steel guitar and a glass of wine While my tears they glisten and the candles shine. Oh, candle glow, oh, candle bright Tell me what she holds tonight. And bring me wine and make the music mine, Play another set so that I'll forget. Mm, bring me a steel guitar and a glass of wine	And let me toast, too, just one more time. Oh, candle glow, before you dim Tell her what a fool she's been. And bring me wine, make the music mine. Play another set so that I'll forget. And bring me a steel guitar and a glass of wine And let me toast, too, one more time. Oh, candle glow, before you dim Tell her what a fool she's been. And one more thing before I go Here's a secret, I still love her so
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