WEDDING SPEECH

FOR

Aaron and Amy Leavy

Hello everyone! It is really so great to be here celebrating these two beautiful young people and the love they have for each other. Leah and I want to thank all of you for being here with us. Aaron and Amy, you are an inspiration to all of us as you share your joy and demonstrate the power of love and commitment. To witness the marriage of a child is a true blessing, and as many of you know, this year will see the Leavy family “Triple Crown of Love,” perform their hat trick in the arena of wedded bliss. Imagine, 3 sons and 3 commitments to marriage in 1 year! **WOW!!** We think we’ve got the makings of the next hit reality show, “My Three Sons, 2012!” … And to make matters even more filled with serendipity, there is another amazing moment to share. In 1976, when Leah and I got married, we had the honor of having Leah’s uncle, Rudy Gonzalez, Sr and his wife Qutiata attend our wedding with his son, Rudy, Jr. Now 36 years later, we are privileged to share this moment with Rudy Jr, his wife Marta and **HIS** daughters Martiata and her husband Pedro, and Ella and her husband Javier. And to top it all off, we are even more privileged to have Leah’s cousins, Norma and Rudolph Agular here with us to share this great day. Norma, Rudolph, welcome! **(If you don’t think it’s corny, maybe say Welcome in Spanish**). There are a lot of blessings for the Leavy’s and the Gonzalez’s and we’re thrilled to be part of this beautiful demonstration of the power of family and the circle of life.

34 years ago when Aaron was born, Leah and I fell in love with him and parenthood instantly. We couldn’t imagine life being any richer or more fulfilling until 1980, when Joshua was born. We knew they would be instant best friends throughout life and we were comforted in knowing neither would be alone. Double the pleasure, double the pride, double the fun and double the diapers! But our blessings didn’t stop there, because as you know, in 1986, we were blessed with the arrival of Ethan. Our team was complete. As the boys grew into adulthood, they evolved into wonderful young men, each one with a distinct personality and talents. Speaking of passions, each one met wonderful young individuals and as the relationships grew more serious and permanent, Leah and I often wondered if the local wedding planners had those Leavy boys in their cross hairs. Well…apparently, Cupid tipped off **someone**, and 2012 is set to be **THE** year in our family’s family love and marriage tour! Bring it on!!!

Amy, we want to welcome you to the family. We are so happy that Aaron has found his partner in life and as I said, the two of you are a wonderful and inspiring couple. We would also like to welcome your family to ours. To Sherry and Mark Schlegel and Lynn and Donny Mederos, congratulations and we look forward to making and sharing many precious family moments and memories together. (**Note: although I am not an expert in etiquette, I would name the birth mother first**)

To Aaron and Amy, we wish you a lifetime of happiness. As I was preparing my thoughts to share with you today, I couldn’t help but reminisce about what you were like growing up, and coincidentally, I came across an article about love and marriage from the point of view of a child. We all know most of us are not necessarily “smarter than a 5th grader,” so I thought I would see what some raw wisdom looked like. When asked for confidential opinions about love, a young boy named Bobby admitted, “Love will find you, even if you are trying to hide from it. I have been trying to hide from it since I was 5, but the girls keep finding me.” (**Wait for the laugh**). Amy, Leah and I are thrilled that you are the one who “found” Aaron.

On behalf of all of the “Ever Lovin’ Leavy’s, thank you all for being here to share our joy and witness the first “Jewel” in our Triple Crown of Love,” and here’s to much love, health and happiness for Aaron, Amy, and all of us!