**12348 Dan Schaefer best man speech**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to welcome everyone tonight who came in from far and near to start this celebration of Elizabeth and Josh’s wedding. This is quite a rehearsal dinner! So everyone make sure they rehearse their part for tomorrow. We don’t want anyone forgetting their lines, especially not the bride and groom.

Mary, Amanda and I thank you for joining us. We would like everyone to get to know each other, so mingle. I would also like to acknowledge the McConville family, Anne and Bob. In the last few months we have enjoyed getting to know them and Elizabeth’s siblings.

We are excited that Elizabeth will be part of our family, and that Josh becomes part of the McConville family. From my vantage point since we have a great partnership between two good friends who are surrounded by great friends and family they will prosper. This couple now has a huge contingency to offer up advice

When we first met Elizabeth and heard the story, we were very pleased and proud. We knew this started right when Josh shared that they met at church. Josh and Elizabeth, you had four parents patting themselves on the back.

Josh spotted Elizabeth one Sunday while attending church with his buddy Matt and Matt introduced Josh to Elizabeth. Meeting your spouse in church is a good thing because it’s so important to share your foundation of faith.

They also shared with us that while Josh was in Raleigh he was working a job that was very difficult both physically and mentally, harder than he had ever worked before. With this job Josh was sick quite often and Elizabeth was always there for him. Mary and I will always remember that part. She was already taking care of him. During that time they grew as friends and soul mates. They soon became inseparable, enjoying each other’s company and relying on each other for support.

Josh is unbelievable; everyone loves Josh. He is an outdoors man, full of life, hard working, and a stable rock. Elizabeth is a beautiful, talented, giving young lady who loves kids. Both families are super and supportive. I believe this upbringing provided a strong base for Elizabeth and Josh to build on as they grow their family. Elizabeth and Josh are starting on a wonderful adventure. With a supportive family and a strong group of friends, I know they are going to have a joyful time together.

Tomorrow Elizabeth and Josh start a journey and a partnership that is new, full of surprises and wonder. Now on to my suggestions and recommendations for a successful marriage from the old timer:

1. “Honey, I am sorry,” will be a well used statement. It’s much better to apologize than to try to make her see your way. Then you can move on to the making up part.
2. A woman's brain has a storage bank memory that can go all the way back. Any event can be recalled; especially those that you had go the wrong way.
3. If you pick up a hammer make sure you know how to use it well, because if you do not you will hear about that in the future many times.
4. If you start a job make sure you finish it and finish it well. Nothing makes a woman more frustrated than a lot of unfinished projects lying around. And, if she’s like some women she might just hire a contractor to finish it and have them send you the bill. Not a good thing.
5. Tell her you love her every day. Along with that tell her she’s beautiful every day.
6. If she asks you if a piece of clothing makes her look fat, remember the candy bar commercial and just mumble something and smile real big.
7. Don’t step in a hole.
8. Respect, trust, and a constant desire to support each other are paramount for your relationship to grow.
9. Always be there for each other.
10. Make sure that you allow each to have their close friends stay close.
11. Dance, laugh and sing every day, even if you don’t know how.
12. Make every day adventurous.
13. Go see what you can see as often as possible.
14. Make sure God is in your life, and pray every day.

Well, that’s all I have to say right now so everyone enjoy the food and the fellowship and be sure to congratulate Josh and Elizabeth.