ROAST SPEECH

FOR

DUARTE CALVAO

**(Begin the speech by taking out a piece of paper from your pocket and speak very earnestly, sincerely and emphatically**). Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. It is really heartwarming to see all of you here tonight to honor this great and accomplished man. Paul \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is truly a legend in this part of the state, known for miles around for his dedication, intelligence, **generosity**, **sportsmanship**….. and there is no other person any one of us can possibly imagine who is more deserving of this hon…. (**Stop short, look at the paper and say**) Oh wait. Sorry. This is the version of the speech Paul slipped into my pocket…(**Crumple up the paper and toss it behind you**) **NEVER MIND**!!! Let’s get to the good stuff!!

Paul, of course you were the only and most logical choice to be honored at this occasion…. We’ll do ANYTHING to keep you **OFF** a golf course!! (**Wait for the laugh**) . Just kidding (**as an aside you can mutter under your breath**) …Not really…. And Paul, in the spirit of friendship, understanding and partnership, I want to share some wisdom from a true legend-the one and only Arnold Palmer –and I really think this might be the thing to really, **REALLY** help your golf game. He said, “I have a tip that’ll take 5 points off of anyone’s golf score… even **YOURS**, Paul…It’s called an eraser….” (**Wait for the laugh**). Come to think of it, your skills at golf are a true inspiration!! Did you ever meet Hank Aaron? It seems like you must have, because he said, “It took me seventeen years to get three thousand hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course.” Was he learning from **YOU** at the time? (**Wait for the laugh**).

You’ve had an incredible career in the Police Department. Honors. Accolades. Promotions. You’ve really distinguished yourself. It’s almost like you’ve had this single-minded driven purpose in life…Kinda like Lee Trevino who, when asked about his talent and dedication to golf, said, “I’m very lucky. If it wasn’t for golf, I don’t know what I’d be doing. If my IQ had been two points lower, I’d have been a plant somewhere.” …And if it weren’t for the Police Department, you could have been a plant on the 11th hole!! At least then you might be doing something constructive on the course!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

Okay, enough with the golf jokes… let’s face it-there’s so much more we can say about **so many** of your most endearing quirks and characteristics…

Paul has been able to be so effective in life because of his really wonderful family. He’s devoted to them and they are his inspiration. He’s got three great kids, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to whom he is really devoted. Of course I’ve heard they think their dad has this really “corny” sense of humor… Well you know what Paul? You owe me!! (**If the kids are not there, you can say**) I hope you’re taking notes!! After they hear **MY** speech, you’re gonna seem like (**Name the kids favorite comedian**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ !! You’re welcome!! (**Wait for the laugh**) And his gorgeous bride of over thirty years, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , has been his strength and a beacon of light through all of the adventures his illustrious career has brought him. Paul, you may not know this, but we guys at the precinct often wondered, “What **DOES** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ see in that guy?” I mean, look how beautiful and fantastic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is. You **MUST** have an **AWESOME** “Personality!!” Either that or you’re just so tall that she never really got a good look!! (**Wait for the laugh**) It sort of reminds me of what Jack Benny once said, and you know, he was a man who **REALLY** knew how to live. He said, “Give me golf clubs, fresh air and a beautiful partner, and you can keep the golf clubs and fresh air.” …Guess you learned from the master!!! Now if you would only lose the golf clubs…. (**Wait for the laugh**).

In a very serious business, you bring humor, friendship, integrity, connection, leadership and brotherhood. Of course it would be even nicer if you brought the donuts and coffee once in a while!! (**Or name a typical snack that would be brought in for the guys and wait for the laugh)**. Now, mind you, Paul, I’m not saying you’re stingy, but we do understand that with that lanky frame, you’re so tall that your wallet is in a different zip code! (**Wait for the laugh**). Every day, in spite of all of the odds that you face, you manage to do an incredible job…. or at least that’s what **YOU** tell us!! Hey guys… ever notice it’s a “slow news day” when (**Name is deputy**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has a day off? That’s because **HE’S** the one doing all of the work!! Seriously, you and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have formed a wonderful partnership. You two are a living, breathing, buddy movie! And you, Paul, manage to manage all of the details and particles of a very important job while inspiring others. I hear the crime rate in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has really gone down since you became Chief of Police… I guess even potential suspects don’t want to have to deal with you!! (**Wait for the laugh**)

I want to take a moment to thank the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chamber of Commerce for making such a thoughtful and wise choice by honoring my friend and colleague, Paul \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for acknowledging his tireless efforts on behalf of the well-being of the members of this community, and thank you for bringing us all together to celebrate one of the “good guys,’ but most of all, thanks for keeping him off the fairway and especially out of those sand traps!! Hey Paul-remember your back-give it time to heal!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

In conclusion, I want to thank you Paul, for being a true friend, a wonderful and goofy groomsman, a great teacher, and for being a trusted partner in crisis negotiation-hey-if **ANYTHING** could have prepared you for tonight, you would think… (**Wait for the laugh**), and thanks also for really caring about what you do and for whom you do it. It’s heartwarming to see you being honored with this contribution to the charity of your choice… It’s a shame you can’t use it where it’s needed the most-for golf lessons!! (**Wait for the laugh**)

Congratulations Paul and thank you!