FATHER’S BAT MITZVAH SPEECH

FOR

BILL MARBACH

Hello everyone and thank you all for being here to celebrate this very special day with us. It’s so great to see all of you and to have the chance to be together for a really happy occasion. I’m sure everyone in this room would agree that Brooke is a very special and unique young lady, and you can just imagine… if we haven’t already told you … what today means to us. Of course it’s a rite of passage for a young Jewish girl to be Bat Mitzvahed when she reaches 13 years old, but since the day she was born, you can say her entry into this world was a day that this world will NEVER forget…. and for those of you who were around, you know what I mean.

September 11, 2001 began like any other day, except that we were expecting our first child to be born, however, Brooke’s birth was not the only earth-shattering event that occurred that day. It was the day we all grew up…. in so many ways we never expected. The world would never be the same on so many levels, and in the middle of the incomprehensible chaos, we received the greatest blessing of our lives. As so much was lost, your light came into being, Brooke, and as we all learned to live in a world post-9/11, your mom and I learned what it meant to be parents to such a special and caring soul.

Brooke, you’ve blossomed into a wonderful daughter, kind big sister, delicious granddaughter, and awesome friend-just take a look around!!! All of those smiles are for YOU!! We are so proud of you and we want you to know that we will always be there for you; to love and support you as you realize your dreams in life. You’re perfect, just the way you are and we wouldn’t change a thing about you!

Every day we have the opportunity to learn lessons that will last a lifetime. September 11, 2001 opened all of our eyes forever, but your birth taught us that where there is life there are possibilities and even in the darkest, most chaotic times, there is **STILL** hope. There is always one spark of light that can help us get through even the most impossible situations and on that day, that spark was seeing you for the first time. Your mother and I know how blessed we are to have such great children and we wish for you only the best of health, happiness and everything your heart might wish for. We love you!! Mazel Tov!!