FATHER OF THE BRIDE SPEECH

FOR

DAVE SCHROEPFER

Hello everyone and thank you so much for joining us as we celebrate the wedding of our beautiful daughter Sarah to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. First off I want to say to our happy couple, congratulations. Sarah, you look absolutely beautiful and your mom and I are so proud of you today …. and always. I want to welcome (**name the grooms parents or closest family**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and say that we are thrilled to finally and officially merge our families through Sarah and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We really do all wait a lifetime for moments like this and to be able to share our happiness with (**name the groom**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s family and all of you is really priceless. Today marks the beginning of a whole new chapter in the history and heritage of the Schroepfer and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ families and it’s a privilege to be a witness and participant as our children join hands and hearts to build a happy, healthy, fulfilling and prosperous future together.

So much planning has gone into this moment. From wedding registries to Pinterest boards, and from analyzing flower arrangements to picking the perfect invitations to share with our wonderful guests, from high level clandestine “dress-ops” to intense cake flavor debates, no stone was left unturned; no detail was left to chance. Sarah and her mother and friends and planners have been immersed in top-level negotiations for the past \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ months. As the father of the bride, men in my situation might tend to feel a little left out. I mean, how much do I **REALLY** know about sharing the perfect pins or uploading ah**-mayzing** selfies to Facebook? Let’s face it, Dads are cut and dried, no nonsense, keepers of the budgets. We’re numbers guys. No pinned up fantasies for us! But imagine for a moment, if you will, what **MY** Pinterest page might look like during this wedding planning… Board One… Bills I wish I didn’t have…280 pins… how many likes? (**Wait for the laugh**). Board Two…. leisure moments I used to love in spots in the house I can no longer reach because the wedding gifts are there…. 48 pins (**Wait for the laugh**) Board Three,,, Delicious meals my wife used to cook before she got swallowed up in planning this wedding … 134 pins (**Wait for the laugh**)… yes folks, in this day and age, a guy… especially the father of the bride… can feel kind of out of the loop, so I really want to express my sincere gratitude…. for remembering to invite me…!!! (**Wait for the** **laugh**). And even though I felt as if I was left out of the planning, it doesn’t feel too weird at all. As I look around the room, I even recognize a couple of people…. Over there… she looks familiar…it’s… oh wait… that’s my wife… (**Wait for the laugh**)

Sarah, you’ll always be my little girl. No really. (**Wait for the laugh**)… Wait… did I promise not to do any short jokes? I’m sorry. But I am sure that everyone who knows you and loves you will agree that what you might lack vertically is more than made up for in your love of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, your determination, your compassion and your sheer will to prevail. You have a wonderful personality and a great way about you. Together with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by your side, I can’t even imagine your potential to make a difference in this world. …. But that wasn’t always the case…one of the things I remember most about you when you were little is that you were **scared to death** of men. I’ve heard of little girls being afraid of mustaches, but you? You were terrified of the whole package!! (**Wait for the laugh**). My how times have changed…. Now you’re married to one!! For all of you parents out there who wonder about the mysterious tastes and fears of your kids… don’t worry… it all works out… and then the bill comes!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**name the groom**), I want to officially welcome you to our family. You’re a fine young man and I know how happy you and Sarah are together. (**If either of you is a sports fanatic you can say**) Now if only we could both be obsessed with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we’d all be even happier!! (**Wait for the laugh**)

Sarah, you’ve always been our best cheerleader, and I say that without irony. Since you were a young child we knew you were special and here you are marrying the man of your dreams, your best friend, your partner and soul mate. (**If you want to make a joke you can say …** And it’s all the same person!!) You have the ability to take in all that life has to offer … and I mean the good… the challenging… and everything in between, and synthesize and respond to situations with confidence, determination and purpose. As you and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ adapt to married life, remember what we’ve taught you and if you live with an open heart and a willingness to communicate, respect and share, I know that you and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will have a beautiful marriage that will last a lifetime and beyond. Congratulations!! We love you!