BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

STEVEN DAWKINS

Hello everyone!!! It’s a great pleasure to be here at the wedding of Landon and his beautiful bride, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and it is an even bigger privilege to stand up here today as best man (**If you want to make a little joke you can say this with some gestures and enthusiasm where needed**), Of **course** there **have been** several times in the past when either one of us **could have used** some support from the other in order to **REALLY** stand up… and probably walk… but that was when we were young and foolish… I mean **carefree**…. and just didn’t know what living the “good life” could bring. (**And wait for the laugh**). Today we’re here to celebrate this beautiful, happy couple and to wish them all the best of everything for the rest of their lives.

For those of you that don’t know, and for those of you that might want to forget…. (**If there is anyone that may have come between the 2 of you in the past or may have been a “victim” of your friendship or pranks with Landon you** **can say**) …. It’s not like I’m pointing at **YOU,** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [cough] (**Wait for the laugh**), Landon and I have known each other for just about half our lives. We met in junior high school, clicked immediately, and the rest is history!!! **GAME ON**!! No matter if we were on the football field or the basketball court, we were always together, battling it out. We have that in common- we’re both super competitive, but that spirit in each of us drives us to be better **for** each other and **because** of each other… we learn from our challenges and mistakes, we learn from our adventures, and we show everyone else “**how it’s** **done.**” Landon, I was so happy to have you stand up for me as my best man when I got married and I could not wait for this wedding to be there for you…. of course to show you **just** how it’s **REALLY** done…. are you taking notes? (**Wait for the** **laugh**). You know I really love you and I’m **KIDDING**, right? Remember… I always had the **better** sense of humor!! (**If you want to make a joke you can say**) Landon and I are basically like brothers…. except I got the looks and he…. **weeeeeellllllllll**…. okay…. he **DID** get the personality (**and wait for the laugh**). Landon, everyone here that really knows you loves you and respects what a awesome guy you are… and that’s why we didn’t let the others in… **KIDDING!**! (**Wait for the laugh**).

All jokes aside Landon, you’re a great guy and I couldn’t ask for a better friend. I know you’ve been through a lot in the past few years but the man we see today is a strong, happy, successful survivor; one who has faced challenges and difficult times but who has done a fantastic job of getting through those tough spots with humor, integrity, and consideration for others. I know how difficult it was for you to lose your dad, but I know he would be so proud of you and I am sure he watches over you and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**their daughter**) every single day.

The measure of a man can be seen in the way he lives his life and one of the greatest gifts is to find real, true love…. Most of us are hopeless romantics but that’s what makes life so interesting… **we never know where or when** love might turn up, but when it’s meant to be…. there it is… no matter how unprepared we might be, it gets us!! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years ago you met this beautiful woman, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who is now your wife, and the rest is history… you have a wonderful family and I know I speak for everyone here when I say we are all so happy for all of you…. so okay… (**Pick up your finger and make a** **stroke in** the air and say)… that’s **ONE** for Landon!! (**And wait for the laugh**).

(**If you know his mother and family well you might want to say**) I would also like to extend congratulations to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Landon’s mother and to his brothers and sisters, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and to the family of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**mention the bride’s family if appropriate**)

(**Regarding the toast do you think that since he has been sober for 5 years you might toast with something non-alcoholic? Just a thought in case it might be an issue for him… use your judgment and maybe see if there is sparkling cider or sparkling non-alcoholic Champagne or wine you can use**)

(**Also, do you want to mention his sobriety in the toast? It’s up to you but you can say**):

Ladies and gentlemen, in acknowledgment of Landon’s fantastic commitment to his sobriety, I want to invite all of you to raise a glass… of non-alcoholic Champagne… as I propose a toast to our bride and groom…

Here’s to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Landon (**Do you want to mention their child? Do** **you think it will be touching?)** and of course \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, here’s to a life filled with health, happiness, family, friends, lots of love and all you could ever wish for… Congratulations!! We love you!!