BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

MICHAEL NAKHLEH

Hello everyone!!! It’s so great to be here to celebrate the marriage this great couple. Weddings are always special and joyous occasions and this one really tops the list for me. This crowd is amazing and to see all of you here, **HUNDREDS** of people gathered together in one room to mark this incredible event inspires the question on everyone’s lips…. Was it **REALLY** necessary to have **TWO** Michael Nakhleh’s present for this wedding? (**Wait for the laugh**). Apparently the answer is a resounding “**YES!**!!” because I would not have missed this for the world!! Just trust me on this one… there may be two of us, but there is only one groom, and he is madly in love with his beautiful bride, Obi.

Throughout history there have been stories and famous examples of people seemingly separated at birth; people who were meant to be in each other’s lives, who had a spiritual connection, and who also had a bond that could not be broken. That’s what it’s been like with my cousin Michael and me, in fact you can almost deduce that from the time of our births, just three months apart, we were destined to be each other’s best man. This best man gig is a self-fulfilling prophecy!! (**Wait for the laugh**). We have grown up together since infancy. Our fathers are brothers, and we were both named after our beloved grandfather. (**If you want to make a little joke you can say**) Sometimes I wonder if both sets of our parents named us Michael to even the playing field… When you think about it, it’s **SO** much more efficient…. 2 kids outside playing together… only **ONE** name to yell out!!! Two friends getting into BIG trouble? Imagine **FOUR** parents screaming one name in unison!! What impact!! (**Wait for the laugh**) It may have made for a lot of “Michaels” in the family, but I couldn’t be prouder to share the legacy of this name and the DNA of both my cousin and our grandfather… and from the minute we were old enough to see past our crib gates we have been best friends. By the time we were both able to get up and walk, the wheels were turning in our heads and we were figuring out fun “adventures” and believe me, some of them were pretty crazy… Of course even though we grew up as close as brothers we usually forgot that we were actually cousins so that meant there were **TWO** sets of parents to yell at each one of us…. (**You can say**)… Note to self-plan **THAT** one better in the next life!! (**And wait for the laugh**). Yes there have been some crazy times but we **ALWAYS** had each other’s back. From fighting with the neighborhood kids to making fake permission slips for school (**If you want and there are any young children in the crowd you can say**) … to all of you kids present tonight…. **REMEMBER**!!! Do **NOT** try that at home!! I also don’t suggest you try to sneak off to Mexico either…. **THAT** could have worked out better as well… and then there was that time we got robbed in New York… Now as I think back on all of those **good times** I mean **LEARNING EXPERIENCES**, I know that my cousin Michael and I share so much more than a name. We share a family, a blessed life, and all of the ups and downs that come with having such a wonderful friendship and connection. (**If you want to make a** **joke you can say**) And thank goodness we don’t share a probation file!! (**And wait for the laugh**).

I think it’s pretty clear that I know Michael better than just about everyone in this room and you all know how proud I am to share our mutual legacy. About \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years ago destiny stepped in and knocked on Michael’s door and brought him an angel. (**Turn to Michael and say**) When Obi entered your life it was clear that this beautiful, caring, amazing person was meant to be with you for the rest of your lives. You may have heard me say that every time I look at you I see our grandfather. Well I have to tell you also that every time I see you and Obi, I am reminded of our grandparents. Our grandfather was married to our grandmother for over sixty years and every day that they were blessed to share, their love grew. Every day they loved each other more and more. They never left each other’s side. Their connection to each other was deep and didn’t need words. They didn’t even have to speak for people to know they were devoted to each other and madly in love. I see that same soul connection with you and Obi. What a gift that is!! Always remember our family and our grandfather Michael and remember how he loved our Grandmother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with all of his heart.

To Obi and Michael, thank you for showing us what true love is and for your commitment to the future of this family. May the legacy and fun continue for many generations of happy, healthy and slightly mischievous Michael Nakhleh’s and may you both share a life filled with health, happiness and all that you wish for!! Congratulations… we love you!!