BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

KIRK McNABB

Would you believe that Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “It is one of the blessings of old friends that you can afford to be stupid with them?” Hello everyone, I am Kirk and I am proud to say that I have known Jeremy long enough to have had the privileges and opportunities to be stupid, smart, daring, funny, and any way we both wanted to be with each other… which now includes getting all cleaned up and formally dressed to celebrate his marriage! (**Wait for the laugh**). Do you want to know far back we go? Let’s put it this way…. who in this room remembers anything about “their early years?” Okay let’s be more specific…. who remembers the name of the first school you attended? You know what? I remember **even before** the first **my first day** of **kindergarten**…. Don’t ask me why, but the day I signed up for kindergarten at Byrnes Avenue Public School, I remember meeting a little kid. That was **thirty-one** years ago!! That little kid has grown up, fallen in love, and is our groom… Through thick and thin, through distance and time, through challenges and triumphs, I am happy to say that Jeremy and I have been **really good friends**.

Over the years we’ve traveled on separate paths but we both always know that we are there for each other. The fates conspired to bring us to meet that day at Byrnes Avenue. I guess those same fates wanted to make sure the friendship really stuck because about five years later Jeremy moved across the street from my family when we lived on Baywood. Those years as neighbors really solidified our bond. We had such fun times playing baseball on our street, swimming at Beach 6, riding our bikes around…. we were kids and great friends and the neighborhood was our turf. Wow… what fantastic memories! (**If you want to mention 1 or 2 outstanding events or incidents you can do that here- just one sentence per event)** Jeremy, do you remember the time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? And who could ever forget when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? As we got older we sought our futures in separate places…. after high school Jeremy moved to Toronto and I moved to London, but as we all have heard, true friendship definitely withstands the tests of time and distance. I eventually moved back to Wasaga Beach… so at least we’re in the same **time zone**… and although we only get to see each other four times a year, each time we get together it’s like we never stopped hanging out together. We have a bond that’s really amazing and as I get older and I see life from different perspectives, I appreciate how special old, enduring, childhood friendships like ours are.

I met Natalie about nine years ago and I thought then as I do now, that she is really a very special lady…. It’s been such a pleasure getting to know her, and knowing how happy Jeremy is with Natalie confirms my earliest impressions about her. And what’s even better is that when he and Natalie announced they would be getting married, I secretly thought… “Yes!!!” We get to see each other some more times than usual this year!!” … So thanks Natalie!!! (**Wait for the laugh).**

(**Are you preparing to propose a toast? If so you can add before this last paragraph**)

Ladies and gentlemen, I invite you all to raise a glass as I propose a toast:

To Jeremy and Natalie, it’s so reassuring to know the bonds of friendship not only grow, but they multiply. As our families expand may new friendships and traditions be born… Natalie, Welcome to the Baywood crew and here’s wishing you and Jeremy a lifetime of love and health, happiness and understanding, partnership and prosperity, and all that the two of you could ever wish for!! Congratulations!