**14682, Brian McCartan**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you all for coming tonight to share in the wedding of my good friend Tony and his beautiful wife Julie. I have the honor of being the best man and on behalf of the bride and groom I want to welcome all of you here. We have a beautiful venue and a wonderful joining of friends and families of both the bride and groom. So, everyone, please just relax and enjoy this wonderful celebration with us.

Tonight we are here to join a man and woman in matrimony. But, this wedding is not just the joining of one man and one woman. It is the joining of two families that includes both Tony and Julie’s children. I have known Tony for about 15 years and we got to know each other playing golf. Tony and I have spent some hours talking about a lot of different things over the years, relationships, children and life in general. I was always happy to help him by letting him talk out his troubles, by being a good listener. I was thrilled when Tony told me he had met someone and even happier when he announced they were getting married.

Joining two families is always a challenge whether the kids are still children or whether they are grown with families of their own. It requires a lot of love and a willingness to compromise and work together, and knowing Tony as I do, I believe that is his desire. I don’t know Julie well, but I believe she shares the same family goals as Tony. From watching the two families together as we’ve prepared for this wedding I think I can comfortably say that the kids are happy about this union as well. Today is the first day of a new family for both of them. Today is a day of new beginnings for all of them and we have been asked to join them in this celebration.

From this day forward Tony and Julie will share a new life together. They will plan their lives together, share holidays together, weather the challenges of life together, and share the joys of overcoming the challenges of life together. That sharing of challenges makes a husband and wife grow stronger. Husbands and wives who share both the joys and challenges of life not only grow stronger but they grow closer over the years.

Tony and Julie, it is the desire of all of us, your friends and family, that you share a life of love and joy from this day forward. Ladies and Gentlemen, would you please join me in a toast to the happy couple.

May you always remember how you met and fell in love

May you always remember why you fell in love

May the challenges you face in life make you stronger

May the joys of life enrich you in every way

May you live every day appreciating your lives together

Thank you