BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

STEVEN HAVELKA

Hello everyone!!! I have to say… I **CANNOT BELIEVE** that here I am… here **WE** are, at Zack and Emily’s wedding!! This is great!!! What an opportunity to celebrate true love, marriage, the future, and two really great friends. It’s such an honor to be here as Zack’s best man…. If only all of you knew what it was like when we were growing up together, you’d know just how special this moment is…. let’s just say that true friendship is a miracle… and it’s a **REAL** miracle that we both survived the early years!!! Our friendship was and is great… built on **decades** of history- we’ve known each other since the eighth grade- and let me tell you… A **LOT** of history was made in those years… but let’s just say, we’ll keep most of that a **MYSTERY**… (**Wait for the laugh**) (**Turn to Zack and say**) Are you getting nervous yet, buddy? Heh Heh Heh…. (**And wait for the laugh**). This friendship is built on shared interests… like we have been through hell and back together… more about this coming up!! And it’s built on having an intuitive sense of who your friend is… deep down inside… and to what lengths you would go for each other… what risks you might take, all in the name of maximum impact… ridiculous amounts of fun, and always staying one step ahead of… welll … whoever was trying to catch up with us!! Let’s just say that when I look back and reminisce about the “Adventures of Steven and Zack” I’m not gonna lie… I gulp….more than a little….

Yeah, life with Zack was a constant adventure, battle, competition, and one of the greatest experiences of my life. It’s rare to have two friends so in tune and in sync, that even when we fought… over **EVERYTHING**… girls… cars… trucks… girls in cars… cars towing trucks… trucks “decomposed” down to their most basic parts… you get the picture… We always knew, deep down inside, that no matter how bad we fought, we were and are best friends for life. Of course try to tell that to our inner thirteen-year old selves… but we managed to work through whatever conflicts and intense energy we shared and we found exciting new outlets for our **enthusiasm**… more girls… more cars… more trucks!!

I will never forget the time, purely on a whim; Zack and I decided to go down south, drive all over Texas, to then buy trucks that consumed every single hour of our existence. We all know that Zack has the ability to be a smart ass and fortunately he is able to use those smarts to also work on trucks… which is great, especially when we decide to take one of those trucks and stick it in my parents’ garage … **UNANNOUNCED**… because we had nowhere else to put it… Yes, we tried to make room but the whole thing was more like… “Oh Hi Mom!!! What? Yes, someday it’s going to be a truck again, and the day after **that** you’ll be able to find your toilet paper and laundry supplies again!! (**Or mention something else funny that your mother kept in the garage and wait for the laugh**). Yes. Zack and I had and have a passion for cars and trucks and hopefully we also have a knack for taking them apart and putting them back together… let’s just hope that ’72 Chevy we bought down south and snuck into my parents’ garage didn’t wind up looking more like a ’27 model!! Hopefully everything went back in the right place… including the toilet paper!!

Who knows someone better than a childhood best friend? We have an understanding; a deep knowing of who the other person is and what would be best for them. When I first thought of introducing Zack to Emily I thought maybe they would really hit it off, but then I second guessed myself and thought maybe she would kill him… but in the end two soul mates found each other and it was clear to see that they were so much alike… they complemented each other in so many ways… and I happily realized that this really was and is a match made in heaven.

Zack and Emily, when I think of the two of you together I just smile. You’re a great couple and the love you share brings light and love to everyone around you. Zack, I’ve thought about what kind of advice I might be able to give you, seeing as how I brought the two of you together and seeing as how we **DO** know each other for almost a lifetime, but all I can say is this, and I’ll say it in the form of a toast:

Ladies and gentlemen, I invite you all to raise a glass as I propose a toast to the new Mr. and Mrs. Zach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

Zach, It’s **clear** that you love cars and it’s also very clear that you love Emily, so when you care for Emily, think of just how much cars really are like women and require tender, loving attention…. make sure all the parts are in working order (**Give a little wink to get a rise out of the car**), make sure to keep happy and fed, polished and ready to go, make sure you don’t step all over her, and most of all, enjoy the ride!! May the two of you share many, **MANY** years of love, health, happiness, partnership and prosperity, and may you both grow and love each other more and more with each mile you share!! Congratulations! We love you! Thank you!