**15101, James Licata**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to the night that every father both relishes and fears. Tonight I have the privilege of being the father of the bride. My little girl Lisa is getting married. I remember when Lisa was in the first grade we received a call from her teacher. It seems there was a little girl with autism in her class and Lisa had chosen to befriend her. The teacher said Lisa was her only friend. When she called she told us that this little girl now had a cold, and Lisa was such a good friend she followed the little girl around all day so she could wipe her nose.

That’s my Lisa. She cares so much about everyone around her. She is a wonderful sister, daughter, and friend. At 5’1” she is quite a little dynamo and we are very proud of her. No matter what her circumstances she always thought of others before herself. She always sought to help those around her regardless of their need. Whether she was in school, at work or home, or doing some volunteer work, she put others first, sometimes to her own exhaustion. We had to remind her, that to care for others she had to take good care of herself.

And, now let me introduce my new son-in-law, Chris. He is a really great guy and I want to thank his parents for that fact. Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you did a good job raising him. He is the perfect balance for my Lisa. Of course, there will always be a little tug and pull when it comes to cheering for their favorite team. Lisa went to the University of Alabama, while Christ studied at Georgia Southern. Oh, well, no one can be perfect.

I’m sure that both Lisa and Chris will always remember the first time he and I met. Here’s this young man, from Georgia Southern, no less, who thinks he’s going to win my daughter’s heart. Well, he’d better be good, I thought, because not just anyone is good enough for my little girl. So, I did what any good Italian father would do. I did a complete background check on him. It turns out he wasn’t some big time crime boss, although he did spend some time in the slammer for DUI. Strictly small time stuff, but just a little something I can always remind him about.

All in all, I am a happy man. My beautiful little girl has found and married her prince charming. I trust that he will always be good to her and take care of her. Now, would everyone please stand and join me in a toast. (As you raise your glass)

My dear Lisa and Chris,

May today be the beginning of a most wonderful life together

May you always remember why you fell in love with each other

May you always remember the best things you experienced together

When you face life’s challenges let these memories carry you and uplift you

And, as you begin your new life together, know that your family and friends stand with you and wish you all the success in life.

Everyone, Salute’ (drink your toast)