WEDDING SPEECH

FOR

DAVID SCHMIEMEIER

Hello everyone! For those of you that may not know, I am David and I am the proud father of our beautiful bride, Courtney. This is a wonderful moment for our family and we are all so happy that you are here to share our joy. Although I have five fantastic children, Courtney is the first to be married so this is a real milestone in Courtney’s big, beautiful, blended family…. and family is so important to our bride and groom… in fact it’s safe to say that Courtney and Jimmy can thank their sisters \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for being here and inspiring this wedding. Each one of you have a special relationship with this great couple and thanks to tonight’s festivities, we are all joined in the shared joy this couple radiates so freely and enthusiastically.

The English historian Thomas Fuller teaches us, ‘If you would have a good wife, marry one who has been a good daughter.” Jimmy, based on that I don’t have to tell you that you’ve hit the jackpot. Ever since she was a young child she has been an inspiration to all of us. (**Mention 2 or 3 incidents or examples that make Courtney special**). I remember there were some times when she would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the delight of all around her. At school she had a way about her and always managed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. And clearly, as I look around this room, I can easily state that Courtney has always had wonderful friends and is a great friend to all… from her “first friends,” her brothers and sisters, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to those she’s met later, having Courtney in your life is a gift of sunshine, enthusiasm, and kindness. To look at Courtney is to see happiness in motion. She loves life. She’s an active and able participant in many different disciplines and activities… I personally get tired thinking of all of those half marathons she’s trained for and completed! She’s in the process of building a great career at HLK, and she is now a devoted and loving wife to Jimmy. As a graduate of Mizzou where she studied English and journalism, she also must have learned patience because it looks like it might have taken Jimmy a good **six** years to gather momentum to ask Courtney out on their first date! (**I got this info from the wedding website- let me know if this has to be adjusted**). Clearly he made the right move… they were great friends in the years leading up to that point and that bond of friendship is the most important foundation for a happy and healthy marriage.

Benjamin Franklin said, “Wine is constant proof that God loves us and loves to see us happy.” Tonight provides clear evidence that Franklin was a wise and observant man. Among this couple’s shared interests is a love of wine, (**name 2 other hobbies and/or interests that Courtney and Jimmy share**), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They are living proof of the adage, “A happy marriage is a long conversation which always seems too short.”

Jimmy, we are happy and proud to have you join our extended and growing family and you’ve been a part of this clan for quite some time. (**Do you want to mention your wife and Courtney’s mother and stepfather? If so you can do that here)**. Courtney, on behalf of your stepmom, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I’d like to say, and I am sure your mother and stepdad would agree, that you’ve found the proper **“prescription**” for a happy, healthy and love filled life!! (**Say something to congratulate and acknowledge Jimmy’s parents and siblings … as appropriate**). And Jimmy, I would like to take a moment to congratulate your family, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I know we all look forward to making memories together in the future.

There is someone that is not here today but I know she is always in your heart and I am sure she is smiling down on you now as she always did throughout her life. Your Grandma Betty loved you very much and would be overjoyed to see how you’ve really blossomed into a wonderful young woman and a caring, loving wife. Keep her memory with you and use her love and wisdom as a guide to a happy and fulfilling life with Jimmy.

Courtney, I look at you and Jimmy and one expression stays with me. “Now the girl is a woman and my daughter is the bride.” You have given me so much joy and love and I am proud to be your father. May you and Jimmy have more in life than you might ever wish for and I, along with the rest of our family, look forward to a lifetime of happiness, health and fulfillment for the two of you. Congratulations!! We love you!!