WEDDING SPEECH

FOR

NOOR KHAISER

Hello everyone. On behalf of my wife, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and our other sons, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thank you for being here to celebrate the marriage of our son Afshin to the beautiful, smart and compassionate Meghan. Today marks a moment in time that we commemorate all that is good in humanity: love, connection, commitment, partnership and acceptance.

Confucius said, “Wherever you go, go with all of your heart.” Our children have shown us the humanity of traveling across cultures and building bridges. Although the world seems to be getting smaller and closer, other travel was involved in bringing us all here as well. We appreciate that it takes a great investment of time, determination, and care to journey from far and wide to share this moment with our newly extended family and we are so happy that all of you found a way to be here with us. Whether you’ve crossed county borders, state lines, or international time zones, your presence makes this day even more special- if that’s possible!!!

(**Name Meghan’s parents and any siblings**) To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , on behalf of the Khaiser’s I want to congratulate you on the marriage of your daughter to our son. May the newly extended branches of our family trees continue to grow and strengthen into the future.

Meghan, I am quite sure I don’t have to tell you how wonderful your new husband is, so as long as I have everyone’s attention, I’ll tell them!! … And please don’t think I’m biased!! (**Wait for the laugh**). Ever since he was born, Afshin has been an ideal child and a wonderful son. We all know that he’s friendly and outgoing… and all of you are living proof of that! Look at the size of this crowd!! (**Wait for the laugh**). He is a good athlete and was a distinguished tennis player in college and was also ranked in the region during his high school career, winning local tournaments. He may be competitive but growing up he was focused and stayed out of trouble, loved and loves cars, has a huge heart, and has always been kind and tender to a fault. I will never forget how much love and devotion he had for his dog, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What a team they were. Meghan, all of this tells us one thing…. you’ve fallen in love with and married a wonderful, talented, smart and sweet man…. oh… one more thing… we know he loves kids… is it too soon to drop some hints? (**Wait for the laugh**)

Meghan, I want to welcome you to our family. We are so happy to have a daughter as smart as she is beautiful and as devoted as she is compassionate. As I thought about you and Afshin beginning your life together and I started to imagine what kind of advice I wanted to pass on to you at this moment in your lives, I couldn’t help but see parallels between marriage and tennis. Obviously both marriage and tennis involve “love” and although it means “nothing” in the sport, it means everything in your partnership. Marriage is communication; a never ending and exhilarating volley that can only occur when two people are in tune and in sync. It takes focus and practice to sustain and in the middle of the back and forth the concentration between the players forges an interdependent bond. Some say the key to a happy marriage is to find a balance between what to pay attention to and what to overlook. It’s also been said, “Marriage is the highest state of friendship. It lessens our cares by dividing them at the same time that it doubles our pleasures by mutual participation.”

As you begin as husband and wife, pay attention. Show respect. Maintain each other as a priority and really live fully as you treasure your life together

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to invite you to raise your glasses as I propose a toast:

To Meghan and Afshin, Here’s to marriage - a never-ending conversation- one that inspires, entertains, and maintains your unbreakable connection. May you have more than you might possibly wish for… more health, happiness, prosperity and family. As you go forth together do well and do **good**. Congratulations! We love you!