BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

DOMINICK D’ALESSANDRO

Hi everyone! My name is Dominick and I am so happy to be here tonight, and there are lots of reasons why. First of all, I am honored to stand up for my great friend Patrick as he marries the woman he loves. Secondly, it’s always special to get all dressed up to celebrate such a joyous occasion. Third? Well you **KNOW** it must be special if Patrick has chosen to take some time off from his busy sports schedule to actually be present at his own wedding!! (**Wait for the laugh**). (**Turn to the bride, mention her by name and say**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I know we haven’t had too much time to really get to know each other… **yet**, but for Patrick to table sports… even for a few hours? I get it!!! That’s **LOVE**!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I want to say that you look absolutely beautiful tonight and knowing how much Patrick loves and respects you, I look forward to the times when we- you, Patrick, my wife, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I can all get together, reminisce about the good old days, bore you to tears with sports stats, share new adventures and make new memories. Welcome to the clan!

Patrick… friends like you come along once in a lifetime… mainly because they’re too busy devouring sports trivia and going to Villanova and Giants games… **KIDDING!!** (**Wait for the laugh**). Before there was the fascination with everything sports…. before there were the pranks and antics…don’t get me wrong but thank goodness your dad was a police officer… and we selflessly trained him on **QRDC** – that stands for Quick Response Damage Control… I just made that up!!.... It’s not like we were a couple of bored kids acting like **trouble magnets** or anything… we did it for the good of the Nassau County Police Department … that’s my story and I’m sticking to it…(**if you can be more specific and name your town’s PD and wait for the laugh**)… before all of it… there was Patrick and Dominick… two kids from Long Island looking to raise hell… I mean… looking to have some good clean fun (**Wait for the laugh**)

We met as kids through a mutual friend… funny, but he’s not around any more… guess **he couldn’t keep up**… (**Give a little wink and wait for the laugh**) and we were thick as **thieves**… **RELAX** (**Mention Patrick’s father if he is there and wait for the laugh**) Officer Armstrong!! It’s just an expression!! We went our separate ways for college- Patrick to Villanova and me to Buffalo, but it didn’t matter. Distance didn’t affect our friendship… .It cemented our **connection**. And part of that connection was indescribably wild… I’m not gonna lie… from the frat parties to the “clubs” where we learned to be “gentlemen,” some of those times **WERE** indescribable… yep that’s the only word I’ll use in mixed company… so let’s leave it at **THAT** (**give** **another little wink or high sign and wait for the laugh**). Over the years we grew older but never apart. After college we both lived at home and every weekend was an opportunity to “explore…” Yeah… **THAT’s** it…. and as adult life and all its trimmings took hold, our friendship swayed and bent with the times. I got married and Patrick moved to Philly but our **connection** has stayed solid. We have our traditions and since 2003 the Mets and Giants probably wouldn’t play if we couldn’t be in the stadium watching the game. The visits we’ve had back and forth have been legendary and we always make time to hang out together during the holidays…. after all, holidays are for family and after a time we realize that friends **become** family…. that’s how it is with the two of us.

The comedian Jack Benny once said, “Give me golf clubs, fresh air, and a beautiful partner and you can keep the clubs and the fresh air.” (**Wait for the laugh**). Anyone that knows Patrick **KNOWS** he is passionate about sports. And whether it’s getting together at the neighborhood bar with the guys every Sunday to watch football or devouring stats and relishing replays, this guy **IS** sports….and then along came \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and now he has, as Jack Benny said, a “beautiful partner” so you, too, can keep the clubs and the fresh air. I know first hand the depth of connection that Patrick has with the people he cares about and I know how much he loves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The sports writer Heywood Broun said, “Sports do no build character- they **reveal** it.” And throughout his life Patrick has revealed his passion for sports, his love of life and the special people in his, and his respect and appreciation for **connection** (**If you want to make a joke you can say**) … especially to make sure the wide screen jumbo TV is plugged in on Sunday… **KIDDING!**! (**Wait for the laugh**).

And now Patrick and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are married and it would be my privilege and honor to offer a toast to the bride and groom. Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to invite you all to raise a glass as I propose a toast:

It’s been said, “Gold medals aren’t really made of gold. They’re made of sweat determination, and a hard to find alloy called guts.” I’d like to take that one step further and say that wedding rings aren’t just made of gold either. They’re made of an alloy consisting of love and respect, partnership and humor, consideration and passion. To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Patrick, may you both find all that in your wedding rings and your marriage and may you have a long, happy, healthy life together! Congratulations!

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