**4/4/18 - REVISED JOKE IN BOLD GREEN IN MIDDLE**

Hello everyone!! Thank you all for being here to witness this very happy moment for our family. For those of you that may not know, I am Zach, Luke’s older, wiser, **better looking** brother.... and when Luke and I discussed this very special day, he had **ONE** request of me, in keeping with our tight, brotherly bond. “I **DON’T** want you to speak at my wedding.” I thought, well, **THAT** was “**touching**.” He followed up with, “But you’re the only brother I’ve got...” so as in life, my dear brother, you’re stuck with me.... (**HS 4/2- I took this from your notes. Please explain how you’d like this changed. Would you prefer to say instead... “You know I rarely listen to you, except for when it comes to car problems!”**) (**Wait for the laugh**). Luke and I come from a long line of proud, strong, mostly stubborn Norwegians. (**Do you want to add**) ... and Luke, I want to acknowledge how good you look today, and I am so happy to see that you are not wearing in **cameo**... (**HS 4/2... do you mean CAMO?**) way to go!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

I had two years to train for Luke’s arrival, but I have to say that **NOTHING** could have prepared me for the actual experience of having a brother like Luke. There are so many incidents I can recall... and probably even more that I **CAN’T**.... (**Wait for the laugh**), but through it all... there’s been Luke. Each year we always manage to send each other birthday cards... and each year we remember to include, “Happy Birthday. Mom **MADE ME** send this.” ... but that kind of sentiment didn’t betray our bond.... about ten years ago, Luke moved me out to Phoenix. We drove out here in a car with a fooseball table strapped to the roof, that overheated... **VERY** easily. .... the **CAR** ... **NOT** the **TABLE**... I can only imagine what people thought seeing two brothers from up north, driving down from Flagstaff in a car that was for sure about to drop dead. We had the heat on full blast to make sure the engine didn’t overheat.. which would normally not have been too bad.. but it was **MAY**.. and arguably just as hot outside the car as inside the car. .... I know... but it’s a **DRY HEAT ... HUH??? (Wait for the laugh**)...And after **32** hours of driving, we got to my new apartment to find out... **THIRD FLOOR WALKUP**!!! **HOT AS** you know where!!! And Luke’s response? **WE GOT THIS**... and I remembered why I was glad to have a brother.... most of the time....

Tonight we’re here to talk about Luke’s qualities. His “can do” attitude has always been one of inspiration, pride, and just the right amount of stubbornness that he refuses to give up. As his older brother, I could not be prouder of him. He has always been there for me. When I couldn’t figure out why my car couldn’t start, Luke was there to fix it. And when I couldn’t take one more shot of whiskey, Luke was there to take it for me. Even as adults, we continue to learn so much from each other. I taught Luke how to drink tequila and pass out on hotel lobby floors.. Luke taught me how to say another guest’s name from that same hotel lobby floor, and somehow, we managed to evade hotel security... **hmmmm**. And if you know Luke, you know his abilities when it comes to anything with an engine, and if it’s broken, and you can bet he will find a way to fix it. ... Given my “**demolition derby**” reputation in high school, when you consider the number of vehicles I “**creatively transformed**,” I feel that partial credit should go to me for helping provide this experience. Luke has literally diagnosed car problems based on horrible reenactments of the noise the car made..... (**Do you want to add**) ... which kind of sounds similar to when I just couldn’t bear one more shot of tequila... (**And wait for the laugh**).

About four years ago Luke, Barb and I went on a trip to Vancouver, and in the midst of fresh powder at the ski resort, he remembered to send flowers to his new girlfriend, Feilcia. ... and it was undeniable that we had a gut feeling that something special was going on.

Today is about Luke and the love of his life… and no... **NOT** his gun collection, but Felicia. Felicia, you look amazing, and Luke… wellll....seems like Luke forgot to shave this morning, but there’s proof he remembers important details. I’ll never forget when Luke phoned to break the news that the two of them just got engaged. Luke and Felicia called us from Hawaii, and let me tell **everyone** here, when Luke calls, you **KNOW** it’s important. Felicia, I have liked you from the moment I met you... yes, **MOSTLY** because you always laugh at my jokes but now it’s because you make Luke happier than I’ve ever seen him... And it’s clear, even when Luke and Felicia are on opposite sides of the room, you can feel their connection as they continue to look out for each other... their strong bond is an incredible affirmation.

**Luke, you’ve known me your whole life and I have known you for most of mine. I’ve been waiting a VERY long time for this event to happen, and I am so happy that you.... have finally... admitted that ... I AM the BEST MAN!!** (**Wait for the laugh**). **Oh... and Felicia... Here’s a little brotherly suggestion for you... it seems pretty fool-proof where Luke is concerned...** “**After the honeymoon**,” to get Luke’s attention, **why not try that new** perfume called, “**New car interior**...” **like flies to honey...**(**Wait for the laugh**)....

Felicia, we are all so excited to officially welcome you to our family and we now apologize for how much longer it will take for you to spell your new last name, but we know with your strength and inner determination, you. **WILL GET. THROUGH**. Let’s focus on the **BRIGHT** side.... I know for me, I’m so excited to see that because of you, Luke is happier than he has ever been, and of course I’m thrilled that you two will be staying here... and not just so he can work on my car... **maybe**.....

Felicia and Luke, I love you both and I wish you all the best for a happy, healthy, love filled life.... I know the two of you are completely committed to each other and even after the honeymoon, **IF** discussions get heated, Felicia, keep in mind some female marital wisdom... “When I eventually met Mr. Right, I had no idea his first name was **ALWAYS**... and Luke, for you this one’s simple... you’ve heard it before, I’ll say it again... “Happy wife, happy life...”. Give up. (**Wait for the laugh**).

I’d like to invite you to raise a glass as I propose a toast:

To Felicia and Luke, here’s to a lifetime of happiness, health, togetherness, and joy... Congratulations!!! We love you!!