**BIRTHDAY SPEECH**

**FOR**

**ADIR JACOB**

Hello everyone... what an honor to be here with all of you... you **KNOW**...at **MY** age, it’s an honor to be **ANYWHERE**!. ... Shakespeare warned, “Brevity is the soul of wit.” Allow me to be **very** witty... and **very** brief...

I know “they” say that as people get older, they tend to get more fussy... particular... difficult... choosy.... **ME**? I started **ages** ago!!! Why wait a lifetime to miss out on all the fun of annoying people? I limit my choices... I focus, and though I’ve been accused of having limited appetites.... you know I lean towards the **basics**.... I have discovered that the things I love best... the true “meat and potatoes” of life, are my loved ones... my friends.... and that means all of **you**.

My essence is found in the words of Oscar Wilde... “I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best.” I’m a lifelong “essentialist,” and my tastes are narrow... which perplexes my wife, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but hey, I chose **HER**!! After all these years, I realize that life is funny... and I try to be! I’m a terrible eater.... in fact, I dislike eating so much that I’d rather stand here and give this speech!... just give me meat and potatoes.... and I’m good... you can keep the rest. I don’t relate to pop culture or football, but classical music soothes my soul... I respect the truth in wine... the thrill of risk... the currency that’s “crypto.” ... but most of all, I treasure the ties that bind. I love the friendships that feed my soul, and the gifts in life that nourish. I stand here with gratitude and although I may be a picky eater, I **savor** every moment with each one of you! Thank you for your good wishes... let’s celebrate and don’t make me eat my words!