**MAID OF HONOR SPEECH**

**FOR**

**MACKENZIE HERMANSON**

Hello everyone! I’m so happy to be here to celebrate the wedding of Jenny and Chase. I’d like to acknowledge Donna and Martin for being such gracious hosts and for transforming this space into the “wonderland” we are in... actually, we all know that Jenny would feel very at home in a place like this and it’s the perfect spot for Jenny and Chase to officially begin married life together. I am honored to have the chance to “stand up” for Jenny as her Maid of Honor. Jenny and I go back.... **waaaaaaaaay** back... we were probably each other’s first friends. Thanks to our fathers.....mine, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Jenny’s, Mike, we met before we could even speak.... we probably witnessed each other’s first steps and spoke some of our first words together.... even though Jenny is **muuuuuuch** older... hey... **TWO MONTHS** difference to a baby... that’s a long time!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I can’t imagine my life without Jenny... literally... and that makes today so special... for all of us. I would like to congratulate Jenny’s parents, Kathy and Mike, and her sister, Mysi.... (**If you want, you can say**) Our girl did it!!! .. And now Chase is a part of the “family” and I know we all look forward to making lots of new memories as “the family” grows.

Yes. Jenny and I have been friends for **TWENTY-THREE YEARS**.... **IMAGINE**!! We barely look old enough!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I’d like to thank (**Name your father’s employer... where he worked with Jenny’s dad... if you feel more comfortable not mentioning the name of the company, you can just say, “the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ company where they worked”**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for providing the chance for our fathers to work together.... and the rest is history! So many memories stay with me and as I think of our childhood and friendship, I can’t stop smiling... we would do everything together.... from running around the horse pasture pretending to be Indians “taming” those “wild” horses... come to think of it... maybe **WE** were the wild ones? I mean... just between us... we also made a habit of running around the house on our hands and knees pretending to be horses, so there’s **THAT**.... and then there were the countless hours sharpening our skills... at computer games like SIMS, Nancy Drew, Singstar.... oh that Singstar... boy would we sing our **HEARTS OUT** for **HOURS** at a time.... the trampoline at her place.... we’d practice seeing who could jump the highest, but that almost didn’t matter because we were together, as friends, sharing each other’s accomplishments. Then there were the birthday parties at Thunderblades... the handmade cards.... the pillows.... everything Jenny did and does really comes from her heart, and that’s one of the great things about my friend.

Jenny has some incredible qualities...she’s smart... caring... always willing to lend a helping hand yet never expects something in return... she’s got a positive, optimistic way about her and always focuses on the best in a situation.... she’s supportive, but if she needs to share her opinion... **DON’T WORRY**... she won’t be shy!!!! ... and that sense of humor? It’s **LITERALLY** put me in the **hot seat**... no **really**... I’ll never forget that time, a couple of summers ago...we were going for a drive... **GREAT IDEA!**!! Except...it was hot outside.... but **THAT** hot??? I thought I was getting sick... was I running a fever? I felt flushes of heat running through my body... I started getting concerned but tried to keep my calm... so I stuck my head out the window looking for some relief... and then I saw... **SOMEONE** had dialed up the heat on my seat warmer (**would you rather say “tush” warner? That’s what I call them**)... **HMMMMMM**... (**Wait for the laugh**). Well, at least **ONE** of us thought that was a **RIOT**!! Thankfully, Jenny is so much more than her practical jokes... if only Waffles were here to share some memories... yes, Waffles was my pet gerbil.... and when I couldn’t take him with me to college, Aunt Jenny was there... playing with and caring for Waffles as if he were her very own... lucky Waffles... luckier me!!!

Chase, it’s funny, but it seems like the two of you have been together and “in sync” since the time you first met. When **we** first met, I was just so happy that Jenny had met someone smart, kind, and caring... it was clear that you had and have an incredible connection and I see how you two really fit together.... and now, let’s be real, Jenny has **YOU** to punk now!! Actually, it’s clear the jokes and laughter are non-stop between the two of you!!! Welcome to the family!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

So.... Mr. And Mrs. McKenzie, just know that everyone in this room definitely agrees on **ONE** thing for sure.... we are all so happy for the both of you.

(**If you want to propose a toast you can say**) Ladies and gentlemen, please raise your glasses as I propose a toast... To Jenny and Chase... here’s to a life filled with love, laughter, family, friends, health, happiness, and more than you might ever wish for... May **EVERY DAY** be **Taco Tuesday**!!! Congratulations!, We love you!!! Thank you!!!