**WEDDING SPEECH**

**FOR**

**ASHWIN NARAYAN**

Hi everyone!!! I am Ashwin. What an amazing feeling to celebrate the wedding of my oldest, dearest friend... of course, **HE’s** not here, so I guess I’ll honor Joseph instead!!!! (**Wait for the laugh**).... I’m kidding. Joseph **IS** and has been my best friend since we were kids.... some may think that we **STILL** are kids.... I guess that’s all relative...but if theres **ONE** thing I’ve learned.... something special that I’ve **REALLY** observed with my own eyes.... is that **LOVE** changes a person... it has the power to transform, and believe me.... and I am sure most of you will agree, that since Joseph met and fell in love with Hannah, he’s changed... for the better!!!! **GOOD THING** she said **YES**!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

(**Are you the best man? If so you can say**) It’s really an honor to stand up for Joseph... I mean the truth is, we’ve been each other’s right hand guy, wing man, partner in “crime”.... whatever you want to call it... for most of our lives. We met **WAY BACK WHEN**... back in seventh grade, when boys were boys and our biggest challenges involved (**Name a function or challenge in one of Joseph’s favorite video games**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. For twenty three years, we’ve learned and dreamed together, we’ve met each other’s match on the battlefield... I mean (**Name a sport you played together)** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you could say we “clicked” together on PlayStation, we even worked together... who will ever forget those tandem, side by side careers at Young’s Jersey Dairy Inn.... the staff is **STILL** recovering from our careers in food service!! We tested and experimented, and tried new things together... don’t forget to ask him about the **HOT** times we had.... hint... it was called **DA BOMB**... I bet you still remember **THAT**... don’t you Joseph?!?! Even now, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years later, it seems he **STILL** needs water to put out the fire of that rare and wonderful hot sauce!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I’ve heard the expression, “Give me the child and I’ll show you the man.” Back when we were kids, Joseph was great to be around. He was a gamer and a goofball, but a true “ride or die” friend. As we grew older, and our bond grew stronger... we always knew we would go that extra mile for the other one, and believe me, Joseph did. I will never forget, when I was in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and stationed in South Dakota, Joseph made sure to visit. We spent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ together, exploring, hanging out, seeing the amazing sights, like Mount Rushmore, and with every place we’d go, with everything we’d do, even if it was just basically “doing nothing” together, we built a great, shared, treasured history. The first twenty three years have been a fantastic ride... I can just imagine how the next **FORTY SIX**... or **NINETY TWO** will be... **HEY**!! I’m an optimist!!

Then one day... it was in Germany... in 2015 (**this part is not clear in the notes- was Joseph in operations? That’s how I am reading it**), when Joseph was in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, serving on the same Operations watch floor, I guess he did what he was supposed to do... Joseph was **WATCHING OUT**... and noticed someone... apparently goofing around dies **HARD**... and he would crack jokes to this mysterious, attractive, **ATTENTIVE** young woman... someone with an **almost** successful poker face... except he would tell me she had a way of showing her hand... I mean **rolling her eyes**... I can’t **BELIEVE** someone mature and professional fell for **THOSE JOKES**!! Apparently she did, and because of it, we are all dressed up in this fancy place, and **I’M** giving this speech!! (**Wait for the laugh**). Time passed and it looked like Joseph was about to test the waters... literally... to find his greatest audience... he and Hannah went on a **THREE WEEK** vacation together.... two weeks of it confined in close quarters on a cruise, and it **DIDN'T SUCK**!! (**Can you say that? If not, you can say)** ... it was pretty great... they came to the conclusion that if they didn’t kill each other in those three weeks... and actually really **LIKED** each other... there could be a future... and if the **WORST** punishment and **BEST** reward he would get for his antics would be those adorable eye rolls.... then.... **DONE DEAL**!!!

Hannah and Joseph, **A LOT** has been said about marriage... much advice has been given... all I can say is, honor, respect, and **LOVE** one another as you do today. Be there for each other... help fill in the blanks... be supportive... share the chores... but **PAY ATTENTION** in everything you do...I recently heard about a young married couple. She was running late at work and needed her new husband to help heat dinner. She gave detailed instructions on how to set all of those fancy dials on the stove.... naturally, he didn’t **QUITE** pay attention... when she asked what the current temperature reading was, he proudly declared, “**534**!!!” Of course, he was reading the **CLOCK**... **OOPS**!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). So pay attention and help each other to figure out the stove, and life... Hannah, I want to “officially” welcome you to our “tribe...”

... and now, I’d like to invite you all to raise a glass as I propose a toast:

To Hannah and Joseph, here’s to a lifetime filled with health and happiness, family and friends, mutual support, partnership, and endless, adoring, eye rolls!!! Congratulations!!! Thank you all!