**WEDDING SPEECH**

**FOR**

**WINDY HUNDLEY**

Hello everyone!!! Today is truly a special day for our family. I have always felt it to be an honor to have a niece like Haley... the truth is that it feels a little funny to even use that word, **niece**... we’ve been so close that, honestly, I feel, deep down inside, that Haley is more like the daughter I never had.... so you can imagine how proud and moved I am that I am here in an additional capacity... I am also Haley’s Maid of Honor. It’s very gratifying to wear so many “hats,” especially when it comes to honoring Haley... and Justin... on this very important day... but I just **CANNOT** imagine not having this privilege...and so,... Haley, thank you for this beautiful acknowledgement!!

(**You mention that Haley is your second niece. There is also no mention of Haley’s mother and father, or the child. It would also be nice to acknowledge Justin’s family if they are present.. please fill in the blanks and include or remove as is appropriate**). Although Justin has been a major part of Haley’s life for the past \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, today is very special. Today it’s “official....” our family has grown and has been extended. I want to welcome Justin to our “crew” and in addition to acknowledging this blessed moment for our family, I would also like to congratulate Justin’s mother, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and father, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. May this be the beginning of many, **MANY** wonderful memories we all make and share... **TOGETHER**. To Haley’s part of the family, the Saunders’..... aren’t we lucky!!! Justin is with us now, and all is great!! I want to congratulate Haley’s mom, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and dad (**Is this your brother?**), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ along with (**name Haley’s sister**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and of course, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the most beautiful little boy we **ALL** have the privilege to know and love....

When first (**Name Haley’s sister)**, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and then Haley, were born, my life became something of a “wish fulfilled.” I became a **PANK**... if you don’t know what that stands for, it’s Professional Aunt. No Kids... that milestone was enough. As the years progressed, so did our connection. When I say that Haley feels more like my daughter than my niece.. **BELIEVE** me!!! It’s been quite an experience and education to see the world through the eyes of a young girl.... and Haley was **NOT** in the habit of holding back!!! As I watched her grow from a toddler to a little girl.. to a tween and eventually.. a young woman.. a mother, and now a wife, there were many times I saw the similarities between us.. I mean.. selfless... caring.. resilient... you know.. all the **GOOD** stuff... (**Wait for the laugh**).... And there were also those times that Haley showed just how **STRONG** she thought she could be.. and by that, I mean **HEADSTRONG**...Who will ever forget the “Sweet 16 Doll incident?” Not me!! How many times did I ask Haley to **NOT** drop that doll??? And what did Haley do??? You guessed it!!! And who can forget the joy of baking for Christmas ....except when an adventurous little girl insists on knocking the entire bowl of cake batter off the top of the refrigerator??? How did you even **REACH** that bowl?? Was that an experiment??? Did you want to see if it could fly? Or did you want to see just **HOW BIG** of a **MESS** it would make.. all over the kitchen??? You got **THAT** wish!! (**Wait for the laugh**). Haley... I wouldn’t trade any of it.... every adventure.. every bowl of batter.... every challenge we faced together.. as we lived together for several years.. and beyond.. made us closer.. more understanding.. more patient.. and I think it’s safe to say we **DEFINITELY** learned so much as we tried to view the world through each other’s perspective. I am so proud of the woman you have become. a hard worker.. and good mother... a **GREAT** niece... and now a loving wife. Sharing this wedding experience with you.. the planning.. the anticipation... the fun we had on the bachelorette trip to Charlotte... it all just gets better and better!!!

Now you are married.... on a day like today... it’s important that you really get... deep down inside... how special you are.... today is a day that you should **REALLY** feel like a **princess**.... I’m talking to **YOU**, Justin... oh wait... that’s **EVERY DAY**!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). My wish for the both of you is that you realize how special this day is and take that feeling... that electricity and connection you feel for each other, and honor it... respect it... keep it alive.... As you go on in life, the climb will get steeper... the challenges will be there, but keep having each other’s back... be united... keep the lines of communication open... never forget that you are stronger together, and live a life with purpose, commitment, respect, and love.

I would like to invite you all to raise a glass as I propose a toast.. To Haley and Justin... here’s to the best of everything!!! Congratulations!! We love you!! Thank you!!