**[EZ Speech Writers No. 15658]**

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Remarks by Best Man Steven Gross on the occasion of the marriage of his brother, David.

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hello there, everybody. my name’s steven gross, and i’m SERVING AS my brother, david’s, best man tonight — or at least the best man he could FIND to spearhead the celebration of the death of his bachelorhood. But i hasten to add that this a joyous occasion, because who *wouldn’t* want to give up bachelorhood for a woman as gorgeous, as sweet, and as capable as . . . [gesture toward the bride] . . . the lovely and beautiful ALLYSA [LAST name of bride]? [LEAD THE AUDIENCE applause; THEN gesturing toward matt] matthew, old man: you might have made some questionable choices in your life, but marrying ALLYSA sure as hell wasn’t one of ‘em!

now, before i go on with MY little speech, i’d LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR JOINING US TONIGHT ON THIS JOYOUS OCCASION. IT’S JUST TERRIFIC THAT YOU COULD ALL BE HERE. AND I WANT TO ESPECIALLY thank allysa’s parents, scott and lisa, for putting together these wonderful festivities. [to scott and lisa]: SCOTT AND LISA, YOU COULDN’T *POSSIBLY* HAVE RAISED A MORE LOVING AND GRACIOUS AND COMPETENT DAUGHTER AS ALLYSA, AND DAVID IS SO VERY LUCKY TO HAVE SNAGGED HER. YOU SHOULD BE VERY, VERY PROUD OF YOUR WONDERFUL DAUGHTER. I’VE NEVER HAD A SISTER, BUT NOW I DO, EVEN IF IT’S JUST “IN LAW,” AND I’M *TOTALLY* THRILLED THAT SHE’S NOW A MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY, AS WELL.

[BRIEF PAUSE]

NOW, IT’S BEEN SAID THAT TRULY GREAT MARRIAGES LIKE THAT OF MATT AND ALLYSA’S ARE MADE IN HEAVEN. WELL, WHILE SOME DIVINE INTERVENTION MIGHT’VE ULTIMATELY

BEEN INVOLVED, THIS MARRIAGE WAS ACTUALLY MADE ON FACEBOOK. LET ME EXPLAIN.

IT WAS BACK IN [MONTH] OF [YEAR], AND DAVID AND ALLYSA WERE ON A DATE . . . BUT NOT WITH EACH OTHER. it was a group social event and BOTH HAD ARRIVED WITH DIFFERENT COMPANIONS FOR THE EVENING. BUT as the two of them were mingling, they discovered that they were both elementary school teachers — thus providing common gound for conversation. IT WAS THE USUAL, colleague-type stuff, YOU KNOW, TEACHER-TO-TEACHER, but no talk about exchanGing phone number or ANYTHING LIKE THAT. nonetheless, david was MORE THAN a LITTLE smitten WITH ALLYSA — anD who wouldn’t be? — and so he took a chance and looked HER up on facebook. lucky for him, HE FOUND HER THERE, so he just sent her an e-mail message asking if she might be interested in continuing their

conversation, MAYBE GOING OUT TOGETHER . . . YOU KNOW.

well, a week went by and david got no response FROM ALLYSA. then another week, and another, and another. THEN FINALLY, out of the blue, AFTER ABOUT A MONTH OF SILENCE, allysa FINALLY got back to david with a message that her facebook e-mails were sent to an account that she rareLy checked, and THUS she’d only now discovered that he’D written to her. why she happened to check that account just at that time, she cAn’t tell you EVEN TO THIS DAY — divine interevention, perhaps? BUT in any case, they set up their first real date, and the rest, as they say, is history.

DAVID AND ALLYSA DATED FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS, AND THEN, ON [DAY/MONTH/YEAR], DAVID POPPED THE QUESTION, and his was not the MOST CONVENTIONAL OF PROPO-

SALS, UNTIL RIGHT NEAR THE END. HERE’S how it HAPPENED:

IT WAS RIGHT AROUND EASTER TIME, AND AS A STRaTEGEM TO GET ALLYSA OUT OF THE HOUSE, HE ASKED HER IF SHE’D BE WILLING TO POP OUT AND GET THEM SOME COFFEES FROM STARBUCK’S. HE WAS A BIT SHOCKED WHEN SHE AGREED, BUT GRATIFIED THAT HE’D now HAVE A FEW MOMENTS TO PUT HIS PLAN INTO ACTION — SNEAKY S.O.B. [SON-OF-A-GUN] THAT HE IS. so AS SOON AS ALLYSA WAS OUT OF THE HOUSE, DAVID PROCEDED TO PLACE A BUNCH OF EASTER EGGS ALL AROUND THE HOUSE; AND OF COURSE, when she returned, BEING THE FUN LADY THAT SHE IS, ALLYSA READILY agreed to undertake an easter-egg hunt. after she’d found what she thought — and david hinted — was the last easter egg to be found, david told her that there might, in fact, be one more

egg, and he suggested that she look for it in the bedroom.

well, of course, there was no egg in the bedroom, and alyssa emerged from her fruitless — or should I say “eggless” — search just tad miffed at david’s apparent prank. but as she came back to the living room, she saw a littlle stuffed easter bunny that david had placed on the living room table in her absence. as she approached the toy, she noticed with joy that there was a wonderful engagement ring tied around the bunny’s neck. at which point, david was on his knee asking her to marry him. after consulting with the bunny rabbit, she of course said yes!

after their engagement, ALLYSA CONTINUED HER TEACHING CAREER, but DAVID LEFT the EDUCATION field IN [YEAR], TO BECOME A POLICE OFFICER WITH THE [CITY] POLICE DEPARTMENT. SO NOW I HAVE A BROTHER AND SISTER-IN-LAW WHO ARE ENGAGED, RESPECTIVELY, IN WHAT

I CONSIDER TO BE TWO OF THE FINEST AND NOBLEST PROFESSIONS IN THE WORLD — A POLICEMEN, DEDICATED

TO PROTECTING AND SERVING THE PEOPLE OF HIS COMMUNITY, EVEN — GOD FORBID! — AT THE RISK OF HIS OWN LIFE; AND A TEACHER, DEDICATING *HER* LIFE TO EDUCATING AND NURTURING OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS AND HELPING OUR CHILDREN BECOME THE VERY BEST CITIZENS THEY CAN POSSIBLY BE. [TO DAVID AND ALLYSA] I’M SO VERY, VERY PROUD OF BOTH YOU — YOU ARE TRULY AN INSPIRATION TO US ALL!

IN CLOSING MY REMARKS THIS EVENING, I’D LIKE TO PROPOSE THIS TOAST, [TO THE AUDIENCE] IF YOU’LL ALL PLEASE JOIN ME. [RAISE A GLASS] TO DAVID AND ALLYSA: I PRAY THAT GOD WILL BLESS THIS MARRIAGE AND KEEP YOUR LOVE STRONG. MAY YOUR LOVE BE EVER INCREASED, AND MAY IT NEVER BE SUBTRACTED. MAY YOUR HOUSE-HOLD MULTIPLY, AND MAY YOUR HEARTS NEVER BE DIVIDED. MAY YOUR GRASS ALWAYS BE GREEN AND YOUR SKIES

FOREVER BLUE. MAY YOU LOOK BACK ON THIS DAY ALWAYS AND REMEMBER HOW VERY MUCH YOU LOVED EACH OTHER

RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT. AND FINALLY: MAY YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT AND NEVER WANT FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIVE. GOD BLESS THE TWO OF YOU!

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