**Weber Speech [No. 15923]**

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Remarks by Mr. Gary Weber as Best Man at the wedding of his friend, Michael.

[**NOTE**: this speech would be most effectively delivered in a droll, laconic, even somewhat ‘timid’ manner. also, if you’re able to ar-range it with the band’s drummer, have him stand by for a signal from you to drop a “rimshot” into your speech at a few designated places. AND IF YOU’RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET A LAUGH OR CHUCKLE AT THESE SPOTS, DON’T “STEP” ON IT.]

[after being introduced, or bringing the crowd to ‘order’ by tapping a beverage glass:] good evening, ladies and gentlemen . . .

for those who don’t know me, my name’s gary weber, and mike’s asked me to be his best man here tonight. of course i said “yes” because he’s my dear friend. how DO YOU say “no” TO A DEAR FRIEND? but then i thought TO MYSELF: *what am i getting myself* ***into*** *with this whole best man thing*?

so because the internet is *“the source of absolute-ly all knowledge in the known universe,”* — right? — i asked google, “Google, what am I getting myself into here by agreeing to be mike’s best man?”

and google said, “you’ve gotta give a speech.”

“a speech?!?” I asked, hoping that i’d heard wrong.

“yes, a speech,” google said.

“what kind of speech?” i asked.

“the kind that’ll say nice things about your friend and will make those who know him glad they do, and those who don’t wish they did.”

so i asked google, “serious or funny?”

“whatever you want. tell jokes, don’t tell jokes . . . sing, don’t sing . . . it’s up to you. but above all,” google said sternly, in its computer-generated voice, “keep it short!”

so apparently i’m supposed to sing [groom’s nick name]’s praises and talk about his finer qualities. unfortunately, i CANNOT sing and i WILL NOT lie. [rimshot]

now . . . at the moment, many of you don’t know [nick-name] very well at all. BUT by the time i’ve finished this speech, most of you will wish you ***didn’t*** know him at all. [rimshot]

now it’s my job to tell you the straightforward, unvarnished truth about michael. so LEMME SEE . . . [begin ‘countin’ on your fingers, one at a time]: Gentleman . . . hard worker . . . loyal friend . . . student of life . . . accomplished intellect . . . health nut . . . an inspiration to others . . . ! [pause] michael is none of these, really [rim shot] . . . but he must have many other fine qualities, because without them, he never, *ever* would’ve been able to persuade a woman as lovely, as smart, as accomplished, and as discerning as alison [bride’s maiden name] to take him as her husband.

actually, i think marriage is going to be absolutely great for michael. it’ll teach him loyalty, kindness, compromise, self-restraint, fair play, and all those other qualities he wouldn’t need in the first place if he’d just stayed single! [rim shot]

but seriously, folks . . .

I’ve known mike [groom’s last name] and alison [bride’s maiden name] for just a whole bunch of years [,and the whole allison family name clan, too]. if mike and alison’s wedding marriage wasn’t made in heaven, it was certainly designed up there — and with a loving hand, FOR SURE. [raise a glass and gesture toward the bride and groom] mike and alison: i could not *imagine* any couple more per-fectly fit for one another than you two are, And I cannot find words ENOUGH to express how very happy i am that you TWO are wed. [turning toward the audience] so if i may, let me finish my remarks with this ancient toast:

*“MAY YOUR LOVE BE ADDED, AND MAY IT NEVER BE SUB-TRACTED. MAY YOUR HOUSEHOLD MULTIPLY AND MAY YOUR HEARTS NEVER BE DIVIDED. MAY YOUR GRASS ALWAYS BE GREEN AND YOUR SKIES FOREVER BLUE. AND MAY YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT AND NEVER WANT FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.”*

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