Ladies and Gentleman, good evening! I hope you are all having a wonderful time here in Grand Rapids! For those of you I have not met yet, I am Tom Holmes and along with my wife Alicia, We are the proud parents of Alex.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the relatives and friends of both families. You are all here because you have played some part in the lives of Alex and Luke.

Many of you have made long journeys to be here today, so a big thank you goes out for making the time and effort to join in this celebration.

In 1986 when Alex was born, Alicia and I were the happiest parents on earth.

Alex was the world to us.

We gave him unconditional love, hoping that he too, would one day share his love with others.—We dreamed that he would grow up into a happy, loving, loyal, responsible, compassionate man. We dreamed that he would find someone special to love, and share his life with.

One day, when Alex was about 4, he turned to Alicia and said “mom- when I get older, I’m never going to move away. I’m going to live with you and dad forever.”

Alicia gave that some thought, then replied “Alex, someday you will find someone special that you will love and want to spend your life with. The two of you will want to live in your own home together”

Alex though about that answer for a minute, then said “Ok, then the two of us can still live with you, one of us will be your cook, the other the gardener”.

Well, here we are close to 30 years later, and our dreams have been fulfilled.

Alex has found that someone special named Luke. They have a beautiful home in Texas where they can share their life together.

So Luke, Please come to visit often, just know the you may be asked to tend to the shrubs, or prepare our favorite dish.

Over the last few years, Alicia and I have had the pleasure of getting to know Luke. Two things jump right out. Luke loves dogs, he doesn’t like snow!

Luke is a wonderful, kind hearted, compassionate man that you can’t help but like the minute you meet him! Welcome to our family! Vicki and Terry, Charley and Eve, you must be very proud parents of the man you have raised. We look forward to spending time with all of you in the future.

Alex & Luke, you are two amazing individuals and together an even more amazing couple. Love constantly, accuse slowly, forgive quickly and share everything. Be each other's best friends. May God bless your union and bring you the greatest of joy today and always.

I am sure I speak for all when I say------

we wish you fun and excitement for today,

Hopes and dreams for tomorrow,

& love and happiness forever.

May you have a long and wonderful life together.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my pleasure to propose a toast to the happy couple. Please raise your glasses to Alex and Luke.