Father of the Bride Speech

Start by thanking all of you –both family and friends --- who are with us today --- to celebrate Amy and Jon’s new life together…..

Borrowing a word from Amy – this is truly a BIG day for all us ….and a real miracle in the making

As Father of the Bride (I like how that sounds) --- I have the opportunity to give a brief speech this evening

But Amy has already informed me that I am the only thing standing between you and the dance floor….

So, …..

* I intend to follow the advice I gave her many years ago --- when she came to me for help on her valedictorian speech…. at Minooka HS
* She had worked hundreds of hours on her speech…and it was a beautiful speech
* She had quotes from Ghandi to Walter Payton … As we have seen with her blog, she is quite the writer
* The problem was she had 30 min of material for a 10 time slot….she was always the overachiever
* I said:… Amy……. follow this timeless advice… on public speaking… you can’t go wrong…
* That is: Be sincere, …..be brief ….and be seated ….
* ….and I intend to follow that same advice this evening

With that said, I thought I would try something different …and that’s express my feelings for Amy and Jon.. in a special way…. Something out of my comfort zone … And that’s through an original rap …pause…

Put on sunglasses and cross arms ….

…..OK…MAYBE NOT…..

Instead I have a limerick --- it may not have music or beat, but it does have rhyme

Here goes….

OK – now for the serious part …. Next page

* Today is a BIG day for Amy, for Jon and for the whole family.
* You see, we all had a very BIG challenge not too long ago. Amy experienced and survived a life threatening illness and through it all Jon stood by her.
* Most brides and grooms believe their marriages will last through the better or worse and til death us do part but have no proof of it.
* Amy and Jon have already met and survived that challenge so our celebration is multiplied because of that knowledge.
* Amy tells about her experience in her BLOG. She tells how she almost died and how she and Jon both knew that if she lived she might lose her leg and how that would prevent her from running any more.
* She shares how Jon stood by her knowing both the physical and emotional effect that would have on her.
* He loved her in a BIG way so that nothing would stop him from loving her no matter what.
* Despite the challenge they experienced what a wonderful way to enter into marriage, knowing they have already faced the ultimate challenge and overcome it.
* It’s an example of true love for all of us
* Amy also shares how she learned to trust God through all of that.
* I think we all know that in life we must learn to trust God. Some of us learn that lesson better than others.
* But, when God does such a BIG miracle in your life; when millions of people that you don’t even know pray for you to have a miracle and then God grants the miracle it changes your whole prospective on trust.
* Perhaps it changed your perspective ….if so, to God be the glory
* Amy believes that God has a BIG thing for her to do with that miracle and Jon will be right there beside her when God shows her what that BIG thing is that he asks of her.
* We are all so grateful that God healed our Amy and we love Jon even more than before because he is the man we knew him to be by staying by her side during this time.
* When such a BIG miracle happens everything is a celebration. You can never go back to a time when life was hum drum. Every day is a celebration; every event is a celebration. There are no little events or little celebrations ever again.
* Whatever their life is to be; their careers, their life events, their future challenges, nothing can ever compare to the challenge they have already faced and overcome. The trust in God they have learned cannot be diminished by little challenges.
* Amy and Jon, you are the joy of our lives, not only because we already loved you both, but even more so now.
* The BIG in your lives has changed you both in so many ways that we cannot put them all into words.
* But, all anyone has to do is look into your eyes and see the love you have for one another and see that you both cherish one another in a way that most people could never comprehend. That alone will be a testament to other couples.
* A Blessing to you, Amy and Jon, that today and every day, you will walk out your BIG in ways that only you can do, and enjoy every day that you have together.