A few months ago, Luke said I don’t want you to speak at my wedding but you’re the only brother I have.. so here I am today. For those of you don’t know me, I am Zach, Luke’s older brother. We came from strong, mostly stubborn Norwegian blood. I meet Luke in the late 80’s and had a 2-year advantage on him but it was not match for Luke.

As adults we send each other birthday cards saying Happy Birthday, mom made me send this.

10 years ago Luke moved me out to Phoenix. We drove out here in a car that overheated with a fooseball table strapped to the roof. I could only imagine what people thought of a couple brothers from northern Wisconsin. Driving down from Flagstaff we had the heat on full blast to make sure the engine didn’t overheat.. which would normally not have been too bad.. but it was May.. and arguably just as hot outside the car as inside the car. And after 32 hours of driving, we got to my new apartment to find out it was on the 3rd floor.. and no elevator.. Luke’s response.. We got this.

We are here to talk about Luke’s qualities. Luke’s attitude has always been one of inspiration, pride, and just the right amount of stubbornness that he refuses to give up. As his older brother, I could not be prouder of him. He has always been there for me. When I couldn’t figure out why my car couldn’t start Luke was there to fix it. And when I couldn’t take the shot of whiskey, Luke was there to take it for me.

Even as adults, we continue to learn so much from each other. I taught Luke how to drink tequilia pass out on hotel lobby floors.. Luke taught me how to say another guest’s name from that same hotel lobby floor. And if you know Luke, you know his ability to fix anything with an engine if its broken, you can bet he will find a way to fix it. And given how many things I wrecked in high school, I feel partially responsible for helping provide this education. Luke has literally diagnosed car problems by horrible reenactments of the noise the car made..

About 4 years ago Luke, Barb and I went on a trip to Vancouver, and in the midst of fresh powder and the ski resort and he remembered to send flowers to his new girlfriend, Feilcia.

One more story…

And now today even when Luke and Felicia are on opposite sides of the room, you can feel them looking and watching out for each other. They have an incredibly strong bond.

It is an honor to stand with you today at this gorgeous wedding, with our family and friends.

Today is about Luke and the love of his life… and no not his gun collection, but Felicia. Felicia, you look amazing, and Luke… Luke forgot to shave this morning. I’ll never forgot when Luke called to tell me you two just got engaged. Luke and Felicia called us from Hawaii, and let me tell everyone here, when Luke calls you know its important. Felicia, I have liked you from the moment I met you, mostly because you always laugh at my jokes but now its because you make Luke happier than I’ve ever seen him.

Felicia, we have so much to be excited about with you in our family, for me it seeing you make Luke happier than he’s ever been, and of course its keeping Luke here, and not just to work on my car.

Our family is so excited to have you be part of our family, and we apologize now for how much longer it will take you to spell your new last name, no we have no idea why people have such a hard time spelling it..

Luke, Felicia, I love you both. I wish you all the best in your life together.

Lets raise a glass to Luke and Felicia, for a lifetime of health, happiness and joy together .