Thank you for helping out with this. I am the best man in my best friends upcoming wedding. I have known this for 2 years but can never seem to find the time to sit down and write a proper speech and I am running out of time. Writing is also not my strong suit!

I am hoping for a speech that can have some humor to it, but it doesn’t need to be a comedy show. Our group of friends love to take shots at one another so it will be expected that I have a few good one liners throughout. He also wouldn’t be offended if I took a few shots at him (he would expect it).

**Some background information:**

Met in University

He almost got us both expelled from University (more on this below).

Didn’t know his real name (peter) for the first 2 years I knew him. Only knew him by his nickname (stretch). Everyone back in Newfoundland knew him by his nickname, when he moved to Calgary everyone knew him by his real name. He also had a full head of long hair in university, he is bald now.

We are both originally from small towns in Newfoundland and went to University in Newfoundland. After University I moved to Calgary and he stayed in Newfoundland until I was finally able to convince him to move to Calgary. We eventually bought a condo together in Calgary and lived in it together for 3 years (we still own it together and rent it out (for a loss each month)).

Peter has since bought two condo’s, so he now owns 2.5 (the condo market in Calgary has not been over the past 10 years so they have been bad investments for him). We love to give him a hard time about this.

Peter is wholesaler for a mutual fund company and he loves the stock market. Over the years he has provided me and a number of our friends with some stock tips and we have lost money on every stock he has suggested we buy. His job also requires him to be very social as it’s a sales role so he spends most of his time entertaining and in the summer he does most of this on the golf course (probably 3-5 days a week). We make jokes about him getting paid to golf and how much better he should be at golf given that he is “semi-pro”.

I am the only groomsman for the wedding.

Peter is the most social person you could ever meet (we are opposite in this way). He keeps in touch with everyone regardless if they live in the same city and he commonly sees or if they live back home and he might go years without seeing them. I am terrible for keeping in touch with anyone (other than him). He spends all day on his phone texting, must drive Shannon crazy. He is also the most dependable person, when you want someone to do something (a night out, golf, road trip, etc.) he was always willing.

His bride to be is Shannon and I absolutely love her. There is no better woman out there for him (and they both know that). Prior to meeting Shannon, Peter was a partier. He knew everyone and spent every weekend at a club/bar. He loved girls, but never had any interest in a girlfriend or anything more than short term. He and Shannon had dated a few times before I met her and it seemed odd to me. I had heard her name a few times but it tried not to make much of it. Then one day I kept asking questions and he said yeah, I am kind of dating her. I was newly single and was looking forward to he and I living the single together again and assumed this thing with Shannon would come to an end pretty quick.

Two weekends later he and I were at Craft (our go to at that time) and she came there later in the night to meet up with him. I remember it like it was yesterday, I immediately fell in love with her too. She was so down to earth, fun and seemed like an all-around good girl. I knew after that night that my single friend was gone and that she was the girl he was eventually going to marry, and I couldn’t have been happier for him.

Peter spent about 33 years single and became very set in his ways and is very stubborn. He was accustomed to doing what he wanted when he wanted. Shannon was the perfect mix for this. She still allowed him to do his own thing, and she enjoyed her time alone with her friends. But she wasn’t afraid to lay down the law when she wanted him to do something, and he knew better than to say no to something when she wanted him there.

They are still the best couple to hang around with and are non-stop entertaining. They constantly bicker with one another but always in a good way. They never actually fight and they also love to poke fun at each other, as well as at everyone else.

Peter and I both love golf. It is the main thing we do together now in the summers. We are both very competitive, especially against each other. There is no one I prefer to take money from than him, and he is the same toward me. More often than not, he pays me.

We were both always guys guys. We loved sports, partying and just spending time with the guys. We never use to talk much about kids, but when we did, it was normally about being at hockey/football/golf/etc. with our sons. We are both fathers now and we are girl dads! I have two little girls, the oldest is two months and the second is 4 months. His daughter (Vivienne) will be 1 a week after the wedding. He is a great father to his little girl, takes her everywhere he goes and has brought out a side of him that I don’t think he knew he had.

**Below were somethings that I was initially playing with as I was trying to get some thoughts down. At best it would all need to be re-written, but feel free to scrap it all and start fresh. I left it in just to provide some additional information.**

Hi everyone, my name is Steve Bonnell and I am Peter’s best man. For those of you who are here from Newfoundland and are still wondering who Peter is, Peter is Stretch. It seems somewhat ironic to be standing here today as his best man, when I didn’t know his real name for the first 2 years I knew him.

I would like to thank all of you who helped make this day possible; (the wedding was originally planned for the spring of 2020 and then again in the fall of 2020 but were cancelled due to covid. After two cancellations they decided to further delay to have their first child) and Peter and Shannon for inviting me to be here today.

It is a great honour for me to be here today as Peters best man. Peter and I met in University about 18 years ago when me, Peter and Lee Noseworthy were assigned to a group project together. We quickly realized that (we had a lot in common, our love for hockey, golf, George street and we both wanted to do well in University, but through the least amount of effort possible) we had a similar approach to University; we both wanted to do well, but wanted to do this through the least amount of effort possible. For all future assignments, we were able to get creative and convinced the smarter kids in class to do most of the work for us. But that all fell apart in our second last year when we got assigned to different groups for our final finance project. I had the smart kids in my group complete the project, and I then gave a copy of it to Peter and Lee to use as a starting point for their report. But they got lazy, and rather than changing things around to make it look somewhat different, they decided to just remove our names, add theirs and submit it. The prof quicky realized when reviewing that we had both submitted the exact same report, we got reported, had to meet with the dean of the business school, ended up on academic probation and were close to getting expelled from University. to link this to him almost getting both of us expelled from University.

After University I headed to Calgary and Peter went to Corner Brook where he worked with my father at BMO. I spent the first couple months trying to convince Peter to move to Calgary. There was little interest from him, until I sent some pictures and shared a few stories from my first stampede. Not long after that, he made the decision to leave the Rock and came to Calgary.

When Peter moved to Calgary he lived with me until he found his own apartment. A couple years after that he and I bought a condo together and moved into together. We opened a joint bank account. Could maybe link to some kind of bromance.

Over the years Peter and I have travelled together a lot. Mostly to party cities on guys trips. Our trips have included the following destinations:

* Vegas
* Phoenix
* NYC
* Miami
* Atlanta
* Montreal