

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen!

Before I begin I just want to say, I asked Josh before I started writing if there was anything I should not say, and he said no. So Mel, this is really his fault. I'd like to start by pointing out that Mel looks radiant today—every bit the beautiful bride. As for Josh... well, my mother always said if you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all, right? He tries hard. That's Josh... trying... hard. And his personality...his personality it's great too. It makes up for everything that's going on up there, in the face area..

Alright, alright let me introduce myself. My name is James, and I've known Josh since the second grade. I am his oldest, most handsome, most personable, most... ok, ok I'm his friend. And I am honored to be here tonight to sing Josh's praises.

I met Josh when we were both 7 years old. It is not hard to imagine 7-year-old Josh—he had the same haircut and that same little smile—the one that says he's always pleased with himself. When he smiles, it's as if he's thinking back on his many accomplishments. To talk of accomplishments Josh has had many. From being president of the student body at Wilson Middle School to getting into and graduating from Stanford University at the top of his class. To volunteering across the world in Japan helping to build homes and create better infrastructure for rural communities. Though Josh is not just an all-star he's an invaluable friend. He's the kind of friend who asks you how your day is, and really wants to know. He's the kind of friend that pushes you to be a better person. Josh is the kind of friend that answers the phone when you're having one of the lowest moments of your life, and he offers to call you a cab to drive you back to his spot at 3 in the morning, no questions asked. Thank you, man.. As I said, Josh is a man of many accomplishments and Josh is an amazing friend.

Today, definitely speaks to both his qualities. Today counts as one of Josh's biggest accomplishments to date—committing to a woman like Mel—as well as committing to devoting all of the friendship and love that he has within him to another person, his wife and best friend.

You have always inspired me to be a better person, Josh. Today you lead the way, becoming a man and starting a family. This is too beautiful to be missed. I might just have to move in to your new apartment to keep a close watch... Seriously, though maybe for like two months...I'm running a bit behind on rent so... (ok, ok we'll talk about it later). In all seriousness. I wish these two a lifetime of happiness, the kind of deep growth that comes from loving another being not yourself, a life of love and continued imagination. It will be an honor for all of us to witness your journey together.

Lets toast! To this beautiful couple!
Josh, Mel Congratulations.