*Mother of the Bride Wedding Toast*

*Good evening. Congratulations XXXXX. I am XXXX, the proud mother of the Bride.*

*Mark just gave a beautiful speech, thanking everyone from both of us. Our parents in heaven are with us here tonight, sharing this special time.*

*I will use this time to express my thoughts in my way a little differently.*

*When XXXXX was a little girl, every night I would go in her room and tell her a bedroom story. It always started “Once upon a time there was a little girl named XXXX, and I would recount all that happened that day. Well, so many days have gone by since then, that I decided I would include some of my favorite memories.*

*Once upon a time, a little girl was born on a Sunday (the same day of the week as me). From the start, she had an amazing smile and an outgoing personality, like her dad. In fact, as she got a little older, we used to call her “Audrey” as in Hepburn, and Barbra, as in Streisand, which in fact she looked like at the time.*

*I remember thinking she had the best of all qualities; and in her essay for college, she described herself as Enthusiastic, Energetic AND Efficient. And THAT is XXXX.*

*We were proud of her when she graduated college and pursued her professional career … and, as you know, quickly becoming XXXXX. Why? Because, as she in her essay, she is enthusiastic, energetic AND efficient in every thing she is passionate about.*

*She and I are very close and she took her time finding the right man. When she met someone for the first time, we set up a code. She would call and I would ask – is he cute? she said yes. When the answer was no – she’d say – “gotta go!”*

*Then she met XXX. I called and asked “which one was it? She was tongue-tied - couldn’t even respond. That’s when she broke our code and answered “Instant Attraction.” XXX must have felt the same – because here they are tonight!*

*When I first met him XXXXXX, I thought the two of them looked like brother & sister. I found out John was really close to his family, and very protective over the ones he loved. XXXXX is devoted to our family and values our time together. I was so pleased XXX felt the same way. It reminded of a quote I once heard, “If you want a good wife, marry one who has been a good daughter. If you want a good husband, marry one who has been a good son.”*

*Personality wise, they were opposites - he was as quiet as she was outgoing; but like XXXXX, he was serious about his work, well grounded and stable,* ***which is very unique, especially in today’s world****.*

*Love never asks what can I get; what can I give? –They both adore doing little thoughtful things to bring each other happiness. A total romantic - XXX always had something up his sleeve –* ***that he had carefully planned to the smallest detail!***

*When the time was right, before he proposed to XXXXX, XXX went to my husband first to formally ask for her hand in marriage. It’s a good thing he said yes!*

*Thirty years later, also on a Sunday, we are here celebrating their wedding. …..we are blessed, as we watched our daughter become the wife a wonderful man, the man we now call our son.*

*It is the happiest day of my life….. XXXXX and XXX….. Thank you.*

*Everyone, please lift your glasses*

*“Once upon a time” stories usually end with “they lived happily ever after. And of course, they will! However, this story will in on-going for many, many years to come. We have a tradition in our family. Whenever we drink wine, we lift up our glasses and I say, “L’Chaim, which means “to life.”*

*Every, please lift your glasses with me to wish John and Rebecca a lifetime of love and happiness…. Let’s all together say, “L’Chaim”.*