For those of you who don’t know me, I’m Matthew, one of Jacob’s closest friends for over 15 years.

In that time, I’ve been a partner in crime on many occasions and, in the quieter moments, a confidant for Jacob to whom he can tell anything - which has provided me with ample material for my speech this afternoon.

Now typically the best man speech is nothing more than an assassination attempt on the groom’s character but believe me, I won’t let you down.

Actually no, I’m kidding. Jacob will probably end up being the best man at my wedding too and he has far more dirt on me that I have on him, so in retrospect I better keep this clean if I know what’s good for me.

I met Jacob in 5th grade. I actually knew him in 1st grade, but the distance between our houses was still just too much for us to be friends yet.

We came together over a game of basketball every damn day since that day in fifth grade. Day after day would he beat me by 20 or more points. To this day, I still don’t know why I came back to play against him.

Soon it was before long that we began to stay the night at each others house.

Ok let me tell you, this kid could sleep with the radio on high and a fire alarm before it would be too loud for him to sleep.

Remember when you got that king size waterbed? We would always sleep on that gigantic thing again with of course with the radio on high but most importantly with no damn heat on the bed.

You’re supposed to put the heater pads under the bed before you fill it with water. Talk about a cold bed.

We still continued to play those nightly basketball games where I could now get the game a little closer in the score and sometime beat him in a game of pig.

Being a year older than me, Jacob got drive, but for me it was like a rollercoaster ride from hell.
He had a 1990 blue Isuzu which his dad still owns today and he drove the crap out of it.
That truck still runs today just a little bit louder than what it did back then.
Remember we stayed up until late hours of the night and attempted to install an exhaust on it that we both knew was not going to work.
But after a few beers some screws and some chicken wire, that exhaust held, and it was quieter than it was, until it fell off on your dad going down the road to work. Could have killed the person behind him.
Or how bout that foggy morning, when we attempt to see how fast the truck would go, and went right by a county cop.
And thank god I was not with you the night you blew up the tire on the truck, attempting a donut on a night about 20 degrees below zero and 3 miles from home… Damn that was a cold humiliating walk home.

Now Jacob left our junior year to move to Kansas and finish high school and pursue in a great life.
I couldn’t meet his new girlfriends while he was gone, but I was positive that he would find a great girl, which he did.
During this time, I was in search from someone to fill his shoes but I also learned during this time that there was no one who could fill the shoes.
The first time I called Jacob during this time, he didn’t even answer the phone, (pointing at Tamra), and she did.
I remember the email I got from Jacob telling me that he was in love, with a beautiful girl, and he wanted me to be his best man and oh, not to tell anyone else, because I was the only one to know!

I leave you with a couple of great times that Jacob and I will never forget. First, don’t you ever forget about those national geographic; great reading material and taste they great.
Secondly, don’t forget those times when your dad, you, and I would make a personal goal to get all sloshed and enjoy those summer nights just to make your mom mad.
And don’t forget to learn from all of these and never to repeat them, unless it’s only you and me!
I conclusion, I would like to say, Jacob is one of the most considerate and well respected men ever met.
It is a great pleasure for me to see him this happy prepared to start his wonderful new life together with Tamra, the woman he loves. You have yourself a great man.
We have learned a lot from each other. It is a tremendous honor for me to be his best man and I wish nothing but great things for him in the years to come. He’s been there for me more times then I can remember. In all honesty, he’s the closest thing to a brother I’ve ever had and I wish him nothing but the best....

Thank you Jacob for this great honor, seriously, it means a lot to me.