## Scott's Thoughts



There is a song from the "Sixties" that I can't remember the name of but the tag line is "If you want to be happy for the rest of your life make an ugly woman your

wife." Personally I did not heed this advice I married a woman who is beautiful both inside and out. Over the past forty eight years we have had our ups and downs but mostly we have been happy. Not all marriages have the same result. I read of a woman who said, "I'm going to divorce my husband just as soon as I can figure out how to do it without making him happy."

My immediate family has been reduced from eight to just the three of us. Over the last few years we have been growing close once again so when my niece, who is getting married on October 6 and is the daughter of the older of my two sisters, asked me if I could say a prayer at her wedding I was happy to do so. Monday my niece called me in tears. It seems the one who was to actually officiate at the wedding had backed out. That is quite a blow for someone who has had most of the plans made for the last year. She told me about all the decisions she is being asked to make as the day grows closer. She made the statement "We should have just gone to the courthouse."

Everything in life has its difficulties. Over the last several years, Ava and I have been going to marriage seminars and reading books on how to have a happy, healthy marriage. Last summer I found a very good book on the subject and sent a copy to my niece, which she is reading or has read. Many bits of sage advice are contained in this book that I wish someone had shared with me before Ava and I tied the knot. I also wish I had been smart enough to pay attention the good advice I was given, but at that time my focus was on our wedding not on our marriage. As I have already said Ava and I have a good happy, healthy marriage, but we could have avoided some of the rough spots if we had only taken advantage of what was available.

Yes, my niece asked if I would be willing to officiate on such short notice. I said yes. She is family and I love her. I'll meet with her and the groom late Thursday or Friday to line out the final details of their ceremony. The vows taken during the ceremony will be discussed as they are important but so is something else. This young lady and her choice for a husband need to know that I love them and want their marriage to succeed. They also need to know that God loves them even more.

Thanks for listening and let us know if we can help.

—Scott