

Greetings and respect to all in attendance today....Salaamualaikum.

I wanted to begin by thanking the Siddiqui family – many extended family members who have travelled significant distances to be with us today. To have several individuals return to Salt Lake City only a few weeks following their time here when Faizi passed away is a testament to their unity, strength and unwavering alignment as a family. I also wanted to thank his many personal friends. You have welcomed me into your extended family over the years, especially in times of difficulty. I have been so appreciative and apologize if that sentiment has not been appropriately conveyed.

In particular I wanted to thank Saba as well as Zamaan and Zydaan. Our paths first crossed nearly 6 years ago. Saba, you and Faizi played a very significant role in my decision to relocate from Texas. The diner we shared with the Eckhauser family made me feel as if this indeed could become a new environment to call home. Thank you for sharing Faizi and for the roles each of you has individually played in my life journey since we met. Faizi's selfless approach to all things is also a reflection of the same approach you all take towards faith, family and friends. Thank you for always being so welcoming, non-judgmental, supportive, caring and kind. Thank you for sharing him even when his health had deteriorated and I am certain spending time with others was perhaps an emotional burden. Thank you for welcoming me to be with him when he passed. Thank you for sharing more of yourself today, giving of yourself at an unfair and difficult time to allow others to gather, to grieve, to reflect and to pay respects.

The day Faizi passed, my sadness was balanced with a sense of immense admiration and peace for he and his loved ones. That day encompassed his life for me within the context of the word "pure." He was surrounded in family, friends, love and most of all faith. There were no conflicts...only a peaceful and powerful environment of support and unity. He created such an experience by how he lived his life, the decisions he made, the priorities he identified and the manner in which he again...was selfless. Faizi was balanced. Faizi indeed admired things such as elegant watches and could speak endlessly about beautiful cars but he was so very unpretentious. Faizi was humble. The day he passed has made me intensely reflect upon my life and the decision I have made thus far. That day will surely impact profoundly the decisions I make moving forward.

Faizi was the older brother I never had. He was a truest of companions. Just this morning, I had a meaningful conversation with someone about friendships. The best of friends are not necessarily the ones you celebrate or have enjoyable moments with. The best of friends are often the ones that are there when challenges arise, uncertainty is prevalent and a lack of confidence is overbearing. Faizi was that for me. He was always thoughtful, soft spoken, and reflective but in a unique way simultaneously supportive, strong willed and a voice that would be encouraging in regards to enjoying life, have perseverance and remaining confident within yourself. I will miss him, our talks and how I felt after being in his presence.

In the religion of Islam, the term hadith references a saying or approach to living prescribed by the Prophet Muhammad – pbuh. Muslims identify him as the final Prophet after other such as Abraham, Jesus and Moses. A hadith associated with death states:

“When an individual dies, their good deeds come to an end....except regarding three entities:

- Ongoing Charity
- Beneficial Knowledge
- A righteous child who will pray for them

Ongoing Charity: Faizi's approach to charity was not only through forms of monetary sacrifices but also through his kindness, selflessness and ability for all around him to find a sense of calm and peace. His approach to charity was one where if his right hand was giving something to someone, his left hand had no idea it was occurring. It was natural and without any hesitation, expectation or analysis. The manner in which his charitable actions and words will impact the lives of many moving forward will allow his good deeds to remain in existence.

Beneficial Knowledge: Faizi's impact of sharing knowledge clearly has been described today in regards to his professional successes. His ability to educate are clear but I would submit the manner in which he taught people on a regular basis through his counsel and and own personal actions are perhaps more significant. The knowledge he shared with his children, his patients and his family and friends will remain beneficial far beyond the short time we were able to experience them directly in his presence.

Righteous Children: I am so proud to have come to know Zamaan and Zydaan. They have displayed kindness to my own two children and their approach toward family and friends in a respectful yet individualized manner are virtues I admire tremendously. I am so impressed by you both. Your ongoing thoughts, prayers and approaches to honor your father perpetuate his good deeds moving forward. I know you will miss him tremendously and his loss is unfair beyond description. That being said, the strength he instilled in you both and the manner in which he supported your individual identities will allow you to pray for and remember him in a way which will prove to be your most powerful approach towards healing.

Our lives have many narratives, layers of challenge and stories that rarely even those close to us truly understand. The intersection of events and past experiences impact our behaviors, decisions and external persona tremendously. They impact our overall well-being and health on a private level that we surely underestimate. The entropy of it all can be overwhelming. I have a suspicion that Faizi and his family were not and are not immune to these realities. That being said, the Faizi I experienced, the Faizi I will remember and the Faizi that will impact my life moving forward was an individual who was able to rise above these realites and challenges to live a life that was pure. A life that was selfless. A life filled with charitable givings, sharing of immense knowledge and one that led a family which includes two tremendous young men. It was and will remain such a gift to have been a witness...and to be a benefactor of such a friendship and experience.