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## **Toast to Peter Turner, delivered at the Renucci's Party on August 22, 2014**

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Toast to Peter Turner  
By Arend D. Lubbers  
Party at Renucci's given by  
Renucci's and Don & Nancy Lubbers  
August 22, 2014

Peter,

When one has a close friend one watches for opportunities to demonstrate appreciation for the friendship. The occasion this evening is such a demonstration; for all of us gathered here count you as a close friend. You have reached out to us in so many ways, so many ways that enrich us. You must have had parents whose lives were informed by courtesy, because your acts of friendship always come wrapped in thoughtfulness and grace.

We may not see more of you in the future than in the past. The forty miles between Grand Rapids and Muskegon never hindered our being together, but you have now moved within the boundaries of our community. That change, significant for you, is significant for us, too, because we have an excuse for giving you a party to show you how much we care for you. I don't know if it was Amy or James Russell Lowell who wrote, "Each year to ancient friendships adds a ring. As to an oak." Well, ours has several rings by now. Let's count tonight as a time of recognition for the latest ring and for the friendship that you have offered to us.