

THE WEDDING SINGER

On weekends, it's not unusual to find **Frank Zuccarello** crooning love songs to brides and grooms

FRANK ZUCCARELLO, a partner at New Jersey-based Exceptional Risk Advisors, traces his love of entertaining to winning the lead role in the school production of Fiddler on the Roof at the age of 11. As a teenager, Zuccarello – who started playing guitar when he was 8 – performed in bars around his native New York, despite being so young he was not legally permitted on the premises. While simultaneously building his insurance career in the '90s, Zuccarello discovered that the wedding circuit was far more lucrative.

Zuccarello and his band, The Frank Terris Orchestra, typically played four weddings per weekend, during which he witnessed many excruciating best man speeches, numerous guests passing out at the reception, and once, tragically, the father of the bride being wheeled out of the reception on a gurney after having a heart attack on the dance floor. "It's very intimate when you're the wedding singer," he says.

These days, Zuccarello only plays with the band occasionally, but he makes a point of joining them for the father/daughter dance at a Westchester, New York, school every year. "That's the one thing I don't want to retire from," he says. "I've never missed a year. I've been doing it so long, the girls that were born the year I started playing that dance are now seniors at the high school."