

Forever Yours Weddings



Welcome friends and family.

We are here to celebrate love.

Love organizes our large and sometimes unpredictable world. The greatest gift bestowed upon humans is the gift of love freely given between two people.

In marriage, two people turn to each other in search of a greater fulfillment than either can achieve alone.

Marriage is a bold step, taken together, into an unknown future. It is risking who we are for the sake of who we can be. Only in giving of ourselves fully, and sharing our lives with another, can the mysterious process of growth take place.

Only in loyalty and devotion bestowed upon another can that which is eternal in life emerge and be known.

Two among us, who have stood apart, come together now, to declare their love and to be united in marriage.

The words we say today have no magic or visionary powers. The power of the wedding vows is merely a reflection of a reality that already exists in the hearts and minds of these two people.

Vows

Do you **Bride**, accept this man as your husband to join with him today in matrimony, to offer your friendship and loving care, to honor his growth and freedom, to cherish and respect him, and to love and embrace him in times of adversity and times of joy?

Do you **Groom**, accept this woman as your wife to join with her today in matrimony, to offer your friendship and loving care, to honor her growth and freedom, to cherish and respect her, and to love and embrace her in times of adversity and times of joy?

Ring Exchange

Bride, take **Groom's** ring, place it on his finger and repeat after me:

With this ring I thee wed. Take it as a symbol of my everlasting and unconditional love with all that I am and all that I have from this day forward as your wife.

Groom, take **Bride's** ring, place it on her finger and repeat after me:

With this ring I thee wed. Take it as a symbol of my everlasting and unconditional love with all that I am and all that I have from this day forward as your husband.

The wedding ring is a symbol, in visible form, of the unbroken circle of your love, so that wherever you go, you may always return to your shared life together. May these rings always call to mind the power of your love.

Art of Marriage

I offer the words of author William A. Peterson in "The Art of Marriage." I hope you will keep his words upon your heart, and refer to them often.

"The little things are the big things.

- ♥ It is never being too old to hold hands.
- ♥ It is remembering to say, 'I love you' at least once a day.
- ♥ It is never going to sleep angry.
- ♥ It is at no time taking the other for granted;

- ♥ The courtship should not end with the honeymoon, it should continue through all the years.
- ♥ It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.
- ♥ It is standing together facing the world.
- ♥ It is forming a circle of love that gathers in the whole family.
- ♥ It is doing things for each other not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy.
- ♥ It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.
- ♥ It is not expecting the husband to wear a halo or the wife to have the wings of an angel.
- ♥ It is not looking for perfection in each other.
- ♥ It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding, and a sense of humor.
- ♥ It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.
- ♥ It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow.
- ♥ It is not only marrying the right partner, it is BEING the right partner.

That is “The Art of Marriage”.

Pronouncement

Nothing I can say, or nothing you can say to each other, will ensure a long and happy, satisfying and committed marriage. Only your love for one another, and your integrity to make your commitment real, can do that.

In the presence of your family and friends who have joined you to share this moment of joy, you have declared your deep love and affection for each other. You have stated your wish to live together, always open to a deeper, richer friendship and partnership. You have formed your own union, based on respect and honor.

May the glory which rests upon all who love you, bless you and keep you, fill you with happiness and a gracious spirit. Despite all changes of fortune and time, may that which is noble and lovely and true remain abundantly in your hearts, giving you strength for all that lies ahead.

It is now my joyful pleasure to officially acknowledge your union as “Husband and Wife.”

GROOM, YOU MAY NOW KISS YOUR BRIDE!

*Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my privilege to present to you for the very first time,
Mr. and Mrs. _____*