



Katrina and Matt

Franconia, NH, The Inn at Forest Hills

Processional:

Music: Canon in D (Matt's parents, Kate's mom with two boys, Eric and TJ, Marianne)
Con te Patiro Processional (bride)

"Giving Away": Kate's dad will be walking her down the aisle.

Opening Remarks: (read by Kim)

On behalf of Kate and Matt, I would like to welcome you all here and thank you for making the journey to join them on this very special occasion.

Kate and Matt chose this spot to begin their new life together because their relationship blossomed out of a mutual love for the outdoors. New Hampshire was very much a part of the beginning of their relationship. With each of them living back home, they needed a sanctuary – somewhere to get away and just be alone. So, they often came to New Hampshire to camp and hike. Matt, knowing that Kate loved the mountains, eventually introduced her to skiing. During the next couple of years they skied all over New England, and took ski trips to Canada and Utah. However, Cannon Mountain remained their favorite.

This month marks their fourth anniversary as a couple. They continuously look for new adventures to share. Their passion for these activities is surpassed only by their love for each other. What you are witnessing today is a symbol of their commitment to each other and to a lifetime of adventure.

Intentions: (read by Kim)

"Matt, will you have Kate as your wife, in times of good fortune as well as adversity, forsaking all others to be a kind and faithful husband? Do you promise to base your life with Kate on love, caring, and understanding? Do you pledge to speak and to listen, to give and to receive, and to be considerate of her wishes and desires?"

Matt: I WILL.

"Kate, will you have Matt as your husband, in times of good fortune as well as adversity, forsaking all others to be a kind and faithful husband? Do you promise to base your life with Matt on love, caring, and understanding? Do you pledge to speak and to listen, to give and to receive, and to be considerate of his wishes and desires?"

Kate: I WILL.

"And to everyone gathered here today, will you continue to love, support, and respect Kate and Matt in their marriage and in their journey though life?"

Family and Friends respond: WE WILL.

Reading: (Read by Renata, close friend of the bride)

Renata: The following reading is entitled "A Sacred Space". It was written by Lao Tzu.

Your love requires space in which to grow.
This space must be safe enough
to allow your hearts to be revealed.
It must offer refreshment for your spirits
and renewal for your minds.
It must be a space made sacred

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by the quality of your honesty,
attention, love and compassion.
It may be anywhere,
inside or out,
but it must exist.

Vows: (Read by Kim, repeated by Matt and Kate respectively.)

Kim: Please turn and face each other. (Matt/Kate please repeat after me.)

Matt: Kate, you are my best friend.
I choose you to be my wedded wife
from this day forward,
to have and to hold
as equal partner in my life
to whom I give my deepest love and devotion.
I humbly open my heart to you
as a sanctuary of warmth and peace,
where you may come and find
a refuge of love and strength.
I will love you enough to risk being hurt,
trust you when I don't understand,
weep with you in heartache,
and celebrate life with you in joy.
I will accept you as my equal
for as long as I shall live.

Kate: Matt, you are my best friend.
I choose you to be my wedded husband
from this day forward,
to have and to hold
as equal partner in my life
to whom I give my deepest love and devotion.
I humbly open my heart to you
as a sanctuary of warmth and peace,
where you may come and find
a refuge of love and strength.
I will love you enough to risk being hurt,
trust you when I don't understand,
weep with you in heartache,
and celebrate life with you in joy.
I will accept you as my equal
for as long as I shall live.



Sand Ceremony: (Read by Kim)

Kate and Matt are now going to perform the sand ceremony that is a ritual designed to symbolize the joining of two lives and the ongoing existence of each person's individuality. They each chose a color that is meaningful to them and is representative of them as individuals. They will concurrently pour the sand into the larger vase, which represents the new family they create here today. Matt has chosen the color blue which symbolizes the ocean. Blue is a calming color. It is representative of the tranquility and stability in Matt's life, which Kate provides, and his love and loyalty to her. Kate has chosen the color green which symbolizes the earth. It also signifies life and vigor. Green represents the harmony and serenity, which Matt adds to Kate's life and family, which is important to them both.

(AFTER MATT & KATE ARE DONE...)

You will notice that each color still maintains its own identity. This is how it should be in your marriage. When you look at this vase and see the many configurations you can see the merging of the two colors. However, each grain of sand maintains its own space; never losing itself, but blending together to support the structure of the combination.

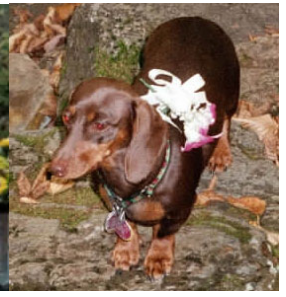
Exchange of Rings: (Read by Kim)

The rings that you are about to exchange mark the beginning of a long journey together. They are also a symbol of eternity, a circle that has no end. Let your rings be a reminder of your union, and of the love that you share. As a ring is unbroken, so will your love for each other be without end. May your life together express a growing unity with this exchange.

Kim: Matt, as you place the ring on Kate's finger, please repeat after me:

Matt: Kate, the words I say to you now are words I say in friendship, respect and love. I see in you a strong, growing partner, the person with whom I wish to share my life. I offer you all the days before me, no matter what may come our way. I freely take you as my wife. Take this ring as a symbol of my commitment.

Kate: Matt, the words I say to you now are words I say in friendship, respect and love. I see in you a strong, growing partner, the person with whom I wish to share my life. I offer you all the days before me, no matter what may come our way. I freely take you as my husband. Take this ring as a symbol of my commitment.



Reading: (Read by Kristen, Matt's older sister)

The Art Of A Good Marriage

Wilferd Arlan Peterson

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens.
A good marriage must be created.
In marriage 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 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 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 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 old.
It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.
It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal,
dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal.
It is not only marrying the right partner, it is being the right partner.

Pronouncement: (Read by Kim)

"Today we are privileged to share with Kate and Matt a moment of supreme joy in the new life they now begin together.

In the years ahead may their wisdom be steadily increased, that they may always apply tenderness and strength to the trials that may befall them.

May their love and compassion serve to guide them with openness and acceptance through the unpredictability of life.

May they always remember to rejoice in each other, and may they always appreciate the life they found with each other.

Closing: (Read by Kim)

And now, it gives me great privilege to say, By the power vested in me, by the state of New Hampshire, I now pronounce you Husband and Wife.

You may now kiss the bride.

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Recessional:

Music: Hornpipe from *WaterMusic*

Reception immediately following.