

Hollybeth & Chris
May 29th 2020
Whitney's Inn Jackson, NH
4:00 PM

Music Playing: "I knew I loved You Before I met you" - Savage Garden
Kim (Justice of the Peace) & Chris (Groom) standing under arbor
Jessica & Josh walk,
Erin & Damien walk,
Dave & Wendy walk,
Shannon & Tyler (Matron of Honor & Best Man) finish.
Connor (Ring Bearer) & Linda (Hollybeth's Mom) walk together down the aisle & sit together in front row.
Hannah (Flower Girl) & Linda (Chris' mom) walk dropping flowers, sit in first row.

Hollybeth & Ken (Hollybeth's Dad) walk. (end the chorus of I knew I loved you before I met you)

Kim's Welcome:

On behalf of Hollybeth and Chris I'd like to welcome you all here and thank you for joining us on this joyous occasion. For many of you, it was not easy to get here and the bride and groom would like to thank all of you for making the journey to help them celebrate their special day.

As many of you know, Hollybeth and Chris have an unusual love story. Ten years after middle school, while on separate ends of the earth, they managed to connect with each other again. They got to know each other through letters, gifts, & thankfully.... the internet!

They have already shown great patience and dedication to one another as they waited to be together. Through a fifteen-month tour of Iraq and then through seven more torturous months while Chris finished his Army career in Germany, they waited. Now, they stand here today, showing their love and commitment to one another.

Hollybeth and Chris ask that on the most important day of their lives that they get some advice from the women who know them best: their moms Linda & Linda.

Gestures to Chris's mother to begin

Chris's Mom speaks:

Gestures to Hollybeth's mother to begin

Hollybeth's Mom speaks:

When Hollybeth and Chris first met, she introduced him to wine, and since then they have enjoyed many bottles together. On this, their wedding day, Hollybeth and Chris have written each other private letters. They will now put them away in this box with this bottle of wine. This is one bottle that is to be enjoyed on one very special occasion, on their 25th wedding anniversary. 25 years from now, you may open the bottle and read each other's letters and reminisce about today, May 29th 2011...

Marriage can be difficult at times and your patience may be tested; and God forbid, you may even have tough times. However, before you let anything come between the two of you, take the time and open the wine and read each other's letters. Remember how in love you were this day, and get back to the love you feel for one another in this moment.

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person." ~Mignon McLaughlin, *The Second Neurotic's Notebook*, 1966

Intentions:

Chris, will you have Hollybeth 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 Hollybeth 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?

Chris: I will

Hollybeth, will you have Chris as your husband, in times of good fortune as well as adversity, forsaking all others to be a kind and faithful wife? Do you promise to base your life with Chris 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?

Hollybeth: I will

Vows:

At the request of the bride and groom, they ask now that you all gather closer around us, so they are officially surrounded by their family and friends whom they love and who love them. The couple have written their own vows and we will begin with Chris.

Nods to Chris

Chris says his vows--

Nods to Hollybeth

Hollybeth says her vows--

Exchange of the rings:

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

Shannon/Connor's pillow hands Kim the rings:

Chris, as you place the ring on Hollybeth's finger, please repeat after me:

Hollybeth, the words I say to you now
Are the ones that I have waited a lifetime to speak
Ones I say in love and confidence
You are my best friend, my partner
The other half of my heart
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
Please accept this ring as a permanent symbol of my commitment.

Hollybeth, as you place the ring on Chris's finger, please repeat after me:

Chris, the words I say to you now
Are the ones that I have waited a lifetime to speak
Ones I say in love and confidence
You are my best friend, my partner

The other half of my heart
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
Please accept this ring as a permanent symbol of my commitment.

Blessing of the Apaches:

Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter for the other. Now you will feel no cold, for each of you will be warmth to the other. Now there will be no loneliness, for each of you will be companion to the other. Now you are two persons, but there is only one life before you. May beauty surround you both in the journey ahead and through all the years. May happiness be your companion and your days together be good and long upon the earth.

Closing:

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.

Music Starts - Keith Urban "Love Somebody Like You" & egofetti is thrown 😊