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# Robin & Karlene Gray

March 26, 1993



Robin & Karlene Gray on March 26, 1993.....and today.

#### Date of Marriage:

March 26, 1993

#### Place of Marriage:

Paynesville Lutheran Church

#### How did you meet?

I was living in Hawaii working for Northwest Airlines, and Robin had come to meet his brother in Honolulu for a week's vacation. We met the first night at Moose McGillycuddy's and spent the entire week together.

#### Who proposed and how?

Within six weeks of meeting, I moved back to Minneapolis so that I could be "closer" to Robin who was living in Vancouver. We would meet in Seattle on the weekends. About two months later, Robin came to visit and decided to stay forever.

Financially, this was difficult, as Robin is Canadian and didn't have a work visa. Robin had several ideas and ways to propose, but in the end, we just sort of mutually agreed. We announced this to our parents in January.

#### How long were you engaged?

We were engaged three months. We were married exactly one year to the day we met.

#### How large was your wedding?

Robin says about 25 people he knew and around 275 he didn't know.

#### What food was served?

My mom worked very hard to cater the entire wedding. She made beef tenderloin, potatoes Romanoff, garlic bread, salad, and so much more.

#### What was most memorable about your wedding?

Robin says seeing me.

For me, and everyone else, I was to sing a song that meant a lot to my family, and I only made about three words and started crying. Pastor Hoyme took the mike and told me, while smiling, "That's probably enough."

#### What was your most memorable wedding gift?

I am not sure that it was the most memorable item, but we received so much crystal! Robin didn't think we needed crystal as much as we needed money, so we returned almost all of it, with the exception of a few key pieces.

#### What wedding gift do you use the most today?

We received an oak table with lion's feet and four chairs. It even has more meaning, as Bailey carved Hudson's name in it when she was five.

#### Who caught the bouquet? Did they shove to get it?

We don't remember.

#### Whose relatives (friends) had the most fun at the wedding?

Almost everyone had fun. Robin's family was here for about a week for the wedding. They all stayed at Donna's Bed and Breakfast. We made meals, we played pool, and it was all fun.

#### Where did you go for a honeymoon?

Hawaii. It seemed like a perfect idea.

#### How do you keep romance alive in your marriage?

There really isn't one thing that we do. Spending time together each day is really all that is important.

#### If you could travel back in time to your wedding day, what advice for maintaining a happy marriage would you give yourselves?

We wouldn't. But we will make sure our children know that marriage is a gift. You get to journey through life with your best friend, who sees you at your worst and gets to help you become your best.

## Wedding Tip- Make a Plan

#1

Making use of planners and organizing your wedding in advance will make the process easier and more enjoyable. Working with a consultant can be costly, but on the upside they will help organize the perfect wedding for you and your partner. Just make sure that they don't sell you on things you don't need or want. If you're not using a consultant, look for reference material in publications and online for ideas and make good use of the resources they provide. Speak with your parents, they'd be thrilled to help out and have contacts in the marketplace that could get you deals.