

January 16, 1976 Ann & Randy Jacklitch

How did you meet?

Ann was the sweetheart for Randy's fraternity at the time. She and her friend, the Sweetheart from the previous year, stopped by the fraternity house to invite the guys to go out dancing. Randy answered the door, and having never met him before Ann asked him to join the group. Interest was mutual so Randy asked Ann to dance consistently that night, leading her to believe that he like to dance; she was wrong. Years later at a Moorhead State reunion, they found a photo of the two of them standing next to one another the night Ann was crowned fraternity Sweetheart, the spring before they actually met.

Who proposed and how?

Randy proposed. He got down on his knee on the front steps of Ann's sorority house and asked her to marry him.

How long were you engaged?

3 months

Date of Marriage:

January 16, 1976

Place of Marriage:

Halstad Lutheran Church, Halstad, MN

How large was your wedding?

Larger than planned, it was the first wedding in Halstad where a Catholic priest would take part in the wedding. People were calling Ann's parents up through the afternoon of the wedding asking if they could please come. There were well over 300 people. In addition, Randy's mom's three sisters were all nuns, another unusual site in a Lutheran Church at that time.

What food was served?

Your typical Lutheran fare of the day which included fruit salads, open-faced ham sandwiches, bars, nuts, mints, cake, coffee and punch.

What was the most memorable moment at your wedding?

On the first solo, Randy blacked out so Father John directed him to step forward, but the kneeler was in the way so Randy tripped and fell against him. Randy's brother rushed in with a folding chair and directed him to put his head between his knees and put a cold pack on his neck. Randy was told to stay in the chair, and the wedding candles were brought to Randy and Ann to be lit. On the second solo, the maid of honor fainted, collapsed on the floor and had to be carried out. They later determined that with a full church, a candlelight service and all the side doors closed because of the cold, there was a lack of fresh air. The church created an operational plan to prevent that from happening again.

What was your most memorable wedding gift?

We received a bedroom set from Randy's parents, but the reason it was so memorable was because we were with Randy's mom when she selected and purchased the set. Ann had never seen anyone who could dicker to get the price she wanted, after sneaking a peek at the actual cost in the salesman's pricing book when he wasn't looking.

What wedding gift do you use the most today?

A wooden salad bowl set from Randy's brother and sister-in-law.

Who caught the bouquet and did they have to shove to get it?

Ann's didn't throw her bouquet in the church fellowship hall, but was serenaded by her sorority sisters.

Whose relatives, or friends, had the most fun at the reception?

At that time there weren't many wedding dances in Halstad, just lunch in the fellowship hall. However, family and friends all drove to East Gate Lounge in Moorhead where Johnny Holm, a family friend on both sides, and his band were playing. Ann's brother had the most fun when he got up and sang Brown Sugar, by the Rolling Stones, with Johnny.

Where did you go for a honeymoon?

Boston, MA, a couple of years after the wedding.

What do you do to keep romance alive in your marriage?

We have date nights, we hold hands, Randy still opens doors for Ann, and because our jobs are 100 miles apart, we make certain that when we are together, we make the most of it.

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

Be patient, forgiving, respectful and loving. Be a good listener and remember to laugh.



Mr. & Mrs. Jacklitch on January 16, 1976.



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