

Don & Judy Lindgren

May 29, 1976



Don & Judy Lindgren on May 29, 1976.....and today.

Date of Marriage:
May 29, 1976

Place of Marriage:
Milwaukee, Wis.

How did you meet?

Don and Judy lived in the same apartment building with Don living in the apartment above Judy's. Judy would park in Don's parking spot, hoping for him to come look for the car's owner. After some investigating, Don found the culprit and confronted Judy. After some lengthy discussion, he asked her out, and they have never been apart since then.

Who proposed and how?

Shortly after they met, Don had to go to training sessions in Norwalk, Mass. After two weeks of being separated, he sent a ticket to Judy to visit him and spend the weekend in Boston. She no sooner got off the plane, and he asked her to marry him. A very whirlwind romance...they met in June 1975, he proposed in July 1975, and they were married in May 1976. There were some skeptics that said it wouldn't last, but 35 years later they are still havin' fun.

How large was your wedding?

Don and Judy invited 300 guests to the local country club. Judy's best friend from high school and her two sisters were attendants.

Don had his best friend from his hometown of Bovey, Minn., and his brother as groomsmen. His two college roommates served as ushers.

They had a traditional Catholic ceremony with a twist. Don is Lutheran, and Judy is Catholic, so to please both their parents, they had a Catholic priest officiate, and the Lutheran minister assisted and gave the sermon, with the main message being that no matter what religion we are we are all Christian.

What food was served?

They served Cornish game hens, rice, and vegetables. At the time that was pretty elaborate, but Judy's dad had served in the Korean War and boldly stated during the planning stages that he would not be standing in a buffet line for his daughter's wedding.

What was most memorable about your wedding?

Don had two very crazy college roommates from North Dakota that served as their ushers. The two roommates decided that it would be very economical and handy to come to Milwaukee in a very large motor home. Even though parking that rig was a little unsettling, it did serve a purpose.

Traditionally, weddings in Milwaukee began at 2 p.m., and then there was a lull in the action until the dinner and reception which were at 5 p.m. In those days, the guests would go home and change from their church outfits to their party outfits and return to the wedding.

Well, seeing that there were so many out-of-town guests (Don being from Minnesota), the bride and the groom had to come up with a plan to entertain everyone during that down time. Late Friday night a plan was formulated and that motorhome was packed with beer and champagne to toast the newly-married couple. As guests left the church, they could immediately visit the motor home to greet the new couple and to enjoy a beverage. Very memorable moment!

What was the most memorable wedding gift?

Judy feels that marrying Don was the most memorable wedding gift she could have received. But the towels and sheets were the best...still using some even today after all these years.

Whose relatives had the most fun at the wedding?

Don's family seemed to have had the most fun. I think with them coming so far (from the range of Minnesota to the big city of Milwaukee) they were going to grab all the gusto they could. The family truly knew how to have a good time, and, as years went by, they always had fun. It was always a gift for Judy to be married into such a caring and fun family.

Where did you go for a honeymoon?

We didn't have a lot of time for vacation, so we went for a few days to Lake Geneva, Wis. We stayed at a resort on the lake called The Abbey.

How do you keep romance alive in your marriage?

Just little things throughout the year are important. Don always traditionally plans and cooks a lovely Valentine dinner for Judy...sometimes very fancy!

But really the most romantic thing that they do is just being together. They have a love of life, and they so enjoy each other's company. When the experts say to be a best friend before you become husband and wife, it is very true. When the world gets a little hard to handle, they always will have each other.

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

The words of advice he gave her: There are two things in a marriage that you never argue about. One: finances. You decide between the two of you who manages the money best, and the paychecks go to them to take care of. Two: in-laws. You treat each family's parents as if they were your own. He went on to say that every disagreement in a marriage will stem from these two topics. Don and Judy have always cherished these words of wisdom, even passing this advice on to their son, who was married six years ago. They will also pass this on to their daughter when she is married in October of this year.

Don and Judy have followed his words, and through the years, there have been very few disagreements.



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