

THEIR STORY

Kimberly had been living on the Outer Banks for 6 years when Joel arrived in July 2007. He came to visit some family in Kill Devil Hills and decided to stay for the summer, finding a room to rent close to his new job. The day Joel moved in, he found out there was another roommate living there. Little did he know that this roommate would be the woman he would one day want to marry.

When Joel and Kimberly met, it was a simple "nice to meet you." There was one day a week they were both off from work and would sometimes hang out and get to know each other for a little bit before going their separate ways. One day Kimberly needed a ride to Manteo, so Joel offered. This was the first time they would spend an entire day together and they had a blast!!! They enjoyed a beautiful summer day under the sun in each other's company and soon started spending more and more time together. There was an obvious bond between them, but neither communicated it to the other until after Kimberly moved out. They continued to casually see each other and soon revealed to each other their true feelings about one another. After some time, Kimberly asked Joel to move in to her new place and within three months, they were engaged. The couple knew they wanted to get married the following summer on the Outer Banks, where they met. One day while browsing the internet, Kimberly found out about the Outer Banks Wedding Weekend. Even though it was months away, Joel and Kimberly agreed they had to go to the Outer Banks Wedding Association's event to gather information and meet vendors. When they read on the website about the Dream Wedding Giveaway, they actually thought how great it would be if they won. When Kimberly's father, Bob, heard about the Expo and how much they were looking forward to it, he insisted on getting the tickets for them. Little did he know his money would turn into a Dream Wedding.



photo by Mary Basnight

Kimberly and Joel resided in Kill Devil Hills when they won the Dream Wedding, but moved to Portola, California shortly thereafter. Their details were coordinated from afar to create their destination wedding on the Outer Banks on November 15, 2008.

On the first day of the Outer Banks Wedding Weekend, and Kimberly made it to as many places as they could all day long, way from Corolla to The Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo. The following day they went to the Expo ready to find anything that would help them with their wedding. Joel and Kimberly entered the Dream Wedding contest with no expectation of winning. After a day full of numerous vendors, they went to the fashion show with so many ideas running through their head. Joel and Kimberly were discussing wedding dresses when they realized the Emcee was getting ready to call the winner of the Dream Wedding. So, they decided to "what the heck, let's stay and see the winner."

In the tradition of the Expo, the Emcee had a child from the fashion show pull out the name of the Dream Wedding Winner. When she pulled out the winning slip, the Emcee fumbled with the name on the slip...."Kimberly Laughlin." Kimberly announced. Joel heard his fiancée's name and his face lit up. Kimberly was in shock. Joel leaned over to her to and told her they had just won! With tears rolling down her face and a huge smile across his, they were congratulated by their wedding coordinators, who were part of the Dream Wedding Package. Joel and Kimberly stepped outside for a breath of fresh air and to take everything in. At that moment they agreed to set back their wedding to November to take part in this once in a lifetime opportunity. They couldn't wait to tell Kimberly's father what had happened and how his ticket had just won them a huge prize. If it wasn't for his generosity, this would have never been possible. Now with the support of their family and many friends, they embark on the journey of a lifetime and their very special Outer Banks Dream Wedding.

photo by Mary Basnight



THE CONTRIBUTORS

Coordinators Karen Kelly (Coastal Events Coordinators) and Nannette Kallestad (The Proper Setting) organized the celebration in conjunction with many other Wedding Association professionals who contributed their services, products and time.

The Wedding Ceremony and Reception were held on November 15, 2008 at the Ascension Estate home in Duck, NC. The property, managed originally by Resort Quest, is currently managed by Sun Realty, both Outer Banks Wedding Association members.

Thanks to the following Outer Banks Wedding Association professionals for their commitment, dedication and generous contributions in providing Kimberly and Joel with such an incredible wedding day. A special thanks is given to Tony March, Ascension Estate owner, for the generous donation of the accommodations, as well as the use of the Estate for the wedding ceremony and reception.

Activities:

The Currituck Club
Nags Head Golf Links

Coordinators:

Karen Kelly, Coastal Events
Nannette Kallestad, The Proper Setting

Disc Jockey:

Les Humble, Humble Entertainment

Equipment Rentals:

Metro Rentals
Ocean Atlantic Rentals

Event Homes:

Hatteras Realty
Resort Quest Realty
Sun Realty
Stan White Realty

Floral Design:

Holiday House Weddings

Formal Attire:

Black Tie Affair

Food and Beverage:

Argyle's Restaurant
Black Pelican
Great Cakes!
High Cotton
Kelly's Restaurant
Red Sky Café
The John Gillam Company

Jewelry:

Low Tide Jewels

Musicians:

Sue Artz, OBX Violin
Roy Murray Music Studio

Officiate:

Del Wilson, An OBX Beach Wedding

Photography:

Julie Dreelin's Beach Productions
Kristi Midgette Photography
Mary Basnight Photography

Beauty and Salon:

Diva's Day Spa
Surfside Tans

Transportation:

Luxury Limousine
Sandy Beach Tours

Special Thanks to:

Mike Stoffel, Outer Banks DJ
Nina Foster, Coastal Provisions
Sondra Meinhardt, The Wholehead Club
Melinda Gregory, Just Desserts
Barbara Miller

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