



# Merrie & Michael

October 4, 2009  
Westbury Manor  
Westbury, NY

Ceremony & Reception Location:  
Westbury Manor

Photography:  
Wedding Photography by Paul Chu

Entertainment:  
Variety Music DJ Entertainment

Florist: Pedestals Floral Decorators

Limousine: Camelot Specialty Limos

Bridal Salon: Burton's Bridals

Headpiece/Veil: The Wedding Center

Formal Attire: Foresto Tuxedos

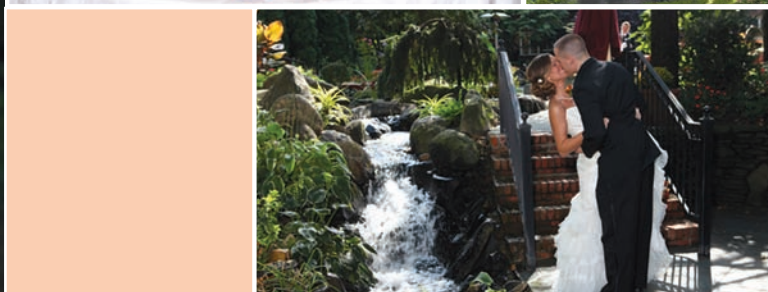
Cake Designer:  
Designed by Bride with Top Tiers

Invitations: Costco.com

Favors: Handmade by Bride

Hair Salon: Bangz

Winners of Grand Prize Honeymoon to Jamaica!



The two met at Jones Beach Theater, where Merrie was an usher for ten years and Michael served as an emergency medical technician for both Jones Beach State Park and the FDNY. After three months of dating, when Merrie returned from a trip to Las Vegas she knew Michael was the one and did not want to be apart from him again. On the morning of November 1, 2008, Merrie and Michael decided to take a trip back to where they first met, Jones Beach. Michael proposed to Merrie by writing "Will You Marry Me?" in the sand. The newly engaged couple set their date for October 4, 2009.

The couple decided to hold both their ceremony and reception at the Westbury Manor after falling in love with the outdoor area. Going along with the theme of their fall wedding, the outdoor area was decorated with pumpkins, adding to the overall feel. "The Westbury Manor had that old world charm that we fell in love with," shared Merrie. Michael sported a tuxedo from Foresto Tuxedos while he watched his soon-to-be wife walk down the aisle in a strapless fitted gown designed by Demetrios. "I loved it and still love it and would walk around in it all day if I could," reminisced Merrie. "I wanted something different, unique and truly me, and it was all of it." Merrie's nine bridesmaids wore strapless eggplant-colored dresses while holding bouquets from Pedestals Floral Decorators made up of orange and red fall tones along with orchids decorated with crystals to add a little shimmer. Her maid of honor wore a different style. Michael's seven groomsmen and one best man wore simple black tuxedos with metallic gray vests.

Following the ceremony, guests helped themselves to an exquisite cocktail hour, which consisted of several carving stations, lamb, and a fajita station. For dinner, guests had a choice between seven entrees. Holding the position of executive assistant to Jason Ellis of Top Tiers, Merrie was able to bake and design their wedding cake. The flavor was carrot cake and alternated between tiers of sour cream pound cake with lemon raspberry filling. "All our guests raved about it and I have been getting orders ever since!" commented Merrie. Along with the carrot wedding cake, guests also enjoyed tartufo for dessert.

The DJ entertainment for the night was provided by Variety Music DJ Entertainment. They played all hit songs throughout the night that suited everyone's tastes. Merrie and Michael shared their first dance to "Lucky" by Jason Mraz and shared the traditional father/daughter and mother/son dances with their parents. Paul Chu captured the couple's moments with great shots throughout the night. He managed to be everywhere at once, and the couple was extremely happy with working with him. "He was incredible," shared Merrie. "We didn't even know he was there the entire night, and he worked so hard to capture our greatest moments."

At the end of the night, guests took home miniature banana breads made by Merrie. The mini breads were placed in bakery loaf boxes tied with a purple ribbon, with a little card attached with decorative stamps that Merrie purchased from AC Moore.

When asked what Merrie's favorite memory of the day was, she responded being surrounded by all our family and friends. Michael had to agree, "My favorite memory was bringing our family and friends together to witness the memorable day." Merrie is so thankful to have a wonderful husband like Michael. When Merrie was given the opportunity to work as a pastry chef in Paris for nine months, Michael was so supportive and wanted Merrie to pursue the dream she had always wanted. "He is the most amazing husband and such an incredible individual," Merrie exclaimed. Merrie and Michael were the winners of Contemporary Bride's grand prize honeymoon sweepstakes to the Riu Palace Tropical Bay in Negril, Jamaica.