

Ceremony #72

Native American Wedding

Welcome! Good afternoon, family and friends. We have come here today to celebrate the wedding of _____ and _____. (family remembrance)

The relationship between children and their parents and grandparents is one that is often understated, yet very deep. _____ and _____ would like to thank Mom and Grand-daddy for your love and support and for everything that you have instilled in them, it is deeply appreciated and they promise that no matter how far away you are from them, that you are not forgotten, and you are always in their hearts forever. Mom and Grand-daddy you may be seated

Marriage is a bond to be entered into only after considerable thought and reflection. By making this commitment today, _____ and _____'s relationship will become stronger, better, and deeper. Today, _____ and _____ demonstrate their devotion to each other by dedicating themselves to a life together and they show their respect for each other by setting forth to honor the vows they have created. Today, their lives, which began on separate paths, will be joined as one.

One of the great joys of the wedding day is the joining together of the couple's families and friends _____ and _____ are filled with gratitude to each and every one of you for the loving, caring, friendship and support that you have given them throughout their lives. Being able to share their wedding day with you, surrounded by your love and support, is a treasured blessing. Let us continue to be there to support them in fulfilling the vows they are making here today.

At this time, we'd like to take a moment of silence to honor and remember those who are not here with us today. (family remembrance)

Even though _____'s Grandmother _____ and _____'s best friend _____ are not here physically, they are a part of the foundation that makes _____ and _____ the people they are today.

May we always remember _____ and _____.

Please cherish the memories of _____ and _____ and all others who live on in our hearts today and always. Amen.

Deep abiding affection, the magical and compelling shared impulse that makes us seek each other's company, is among the greatest gifts of the human experience. Any of us who has been fortunate enough to find and express the kind of loving devotion that we are celebrating here today knows that it is an awesome and beautiful blessing

The step which you are about to take is the most important into which couples can take. It is a union of two people founded upon mutual respect and affection. Your lives will change, your responsibilities will increase, but your joy will be multiplied if you are sincere and earnest with your pledge to one another.

At this time I will perform a Native American Smudge Blessing.

Creator, giver of all life, Bless with your goodness _____ and _____ who come now to join in marriage. Grant that they give their sacred words to each other in the strength of your love. Enable them to grow in love and peace with you and with one another for all their days. Smudge the outer circle of family and friends

I call upon the Great Spirit to bring blessings of the East spirit of Mother Hawk. We ask that you come to us this day and hear us, this ceremony and our intentions. In this direction of the new beginnings that you guide _____ and _____ in their first steps along the path of marriage. We ask that you bless this couple with your strength, knowledge and wisdom in their journey fourth.

A 'Ho"

Great Spirit of the South. Spirit Coyote. We ask that you come to us this day and hear us, this ceremony and our intentions. In this direction the trickster animal, we ask that you occasionally test us and that we always continue to learn and follow along the path of humility.

A'Ho"

Great Spirit of the West, Spirit Mother Bear, we ask that you come to us this day and hear us, this ceremony and our intentions in this direction of physical we ask for your healings in time of pain.

A'Ho''

Great Spirit of the North, Spirit of the White Buffalo, we ask that you come to us this day and hear us, this ceremony and intentions. In this direction of abundance, we thank you for all that you have given us to survive that we lead our lives in a way that shows gratitude.

A'Ho''

Great Spirit of Mother Earth we thank you for giving us life. Without you we would not exist in this vast universe. May we give back to you as much as you have given us.

A'Ho''

Great Spirit Father Sky, of the angelic realms, the countless stars of the night remind us that you are vast, beautiful and majestic beyond all of our knowing or understanding. Your light shines upon the earth both day and night guiding our steps.

A 'Ho''

Great Spirit of Our Souls Within, Place of union, love and reverence. We are grateful for this gift of life and for the love that guides our way. We open our hearts and join with all in love. This is our beginning. It is within the wisdom of our own heart beating in harmony with the great earth, that this prayer was born and we seek to combine our own wisdom to blend without judgment, equally with the wisdom of the other six directions. We have learned as we have recovered, that seeking wisdom is a great and rewarding journey that never ends. It is the greatest journey of all time. If we are going to seek great wisdom, we find that the greatest wisdom comes from the combination of all the ancient wisdoms available to us from all our relations, over, around and upon this great earth!

A 'Ho''

Smudging Prayer For _____ And _____

May your hands be cleansed, that they create beautiful things.

May your feet be cleansed, that they might take you where you most need to be.

May your heart be cleansed, that you might hear its messages clearly.

May your throat be cleansed, that you might speak rightly when words are needed.

May your eyes be cleansed, that you might see the signs and wonders of the world.

May this person and space be washed clean by the smoke of these fragrant plants

And may that same smoke carry our prayers spiraling to the heavens.

In honor of _____ and _____, I cleanse them of all negativity.

I banish away all those who would harm them and I send away all negative thoughts, Let _____ and _____ be filled with love and light from this day forward.

Great Spirit above please protect the ones we love. We honor all you created as _____ and _____ pledge their hearts and lives together. We honor Mother Earth and ask for their marriage to be abundant and grow stronger through the seasons. We honor fire and ask that their union be warm and glowing with love in their hearts. We honor wind and ask that they, sail through life safe and calm as in our father's arms. We honor water to clean and soothe their relationship -- that it may never thirst for love. With all the forces of the universe you created, we pray for harmony and true happiness as _____ and _____ grow forever young together in marriage. A 'Ho'.

Minister: We shall now say your vows. Please join hands

Do you, _____, take _____ into your life, to live with and love, to share all of what life has in store for the two of you? 'I do'

Do you, _____, take _____ into your life, to live with and love, to share all of what life has in store for the two of you? 'I do'

I invite you now to make your promises to each other. May these vows that you make today continue to inspire you and warm your soul through all the years that lay ahead.

I _____, choose you _____, To be my partner for life from this day forward; You are the one I choose To spend my life with. I make this commitment to you out of my deep love and respect. I wish to share the rest of my life with you, To be by your side Through our life's journey together I promise to cherish you, To honor you, To love and respect you, To hold you close, To listen when you speak

To nourish you with gentleness, To comfort and encourage you, In sickness and in health. To uphold you with my strength, And be a safe haven in your life. To never take you for granted, And to always give thanks, For your presence in my life.

I _____ promise to love you _____, All the days of my life.

I _____, choose you _____, To be my partner for life from this day forward; You are the one I choose To spend my life with. I make this commitment to you out of my deep love and respect. I wish to share the rest of my life with you, To be by your side, Through our life's journey together I promise to cherish you, To honor you, To love and respect you, To hold you close, To listen when you speak

To nourish you with gentleness, To comfort and encourage you, In sickness and in health. To uphold you with my strength, And be a safe haven in your life. To never take you for granted, And to always give thanks, For your presence in my life.

I _____ promise to love you _____, All the days of my life.

_____ **And** _____ **Will Now Say Their Personal Marriage Vows**

May I have the rings?

The ring is a symbol of the sun, the earth, and the universe. It is a symbol of pure perfection and of peace. These rings represent the perfect and undying love that exists between you. Let these rings, circular in design, with no points of weakness, remind you of the power and strength of your love and the vows you have made here today.

_____, please place the ring on _____'s finger and repeat after me:

With this ring, I marry you – for today, for tomorrow, and for all the years to come. Please accept this ring as a sign of my love and devotion.

_____, please place the ring on _____'s finger and repeat after me:

With this ring, I marry you – for today, for tomorrow, and for all the years to come. Please accept this ring as a sign of my love and devotion.

May you embark upon your life-long journey together. Arm-in-arm, hand-in-hand. May you delight each other with your timeless love and affection for each other. May your love grow ever stronger; may you love long and happily in one another's arms.

In as much as _____ and _____ have consented together in wedlock and have witnessed the same before this company, and pledged their vows to each other, by the authority vested in me , I now pronounce you partner's in life.

You may kiss your bride .

Native American Wedding Ceremony By The Vow Keeper

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