



Stacie & Jeffrey

STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
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 BY PHOEBE BRUECKNER

When Stacie first saw Jeff in their freshman year dorm she thought he was the cutest, sweetest guy she'd ever met. Therefore, she decided to take the initiative, and after a month of being friends, asked to kiss him. Jeff responded that she absolutely could and "that was it," Stacie says, "we never thought of being with anybody but each other." The fact that they would get married after graduation was an unspoken understanding, according to Stacie, "we just knew." So she went ahead and booked a date for their wedding at the Publick House in Sturbridge, Massachusetts two months before they officially became engaged. "It was an act of faith," Stacie says, "because we had no idea how we were going to pay for everything."

Indeed, financial constraints were the biggest obstacle the couple faced in planning their wedding. But their prayers were answered, Stacie says, and amazing things started falling into place. It began when they discovered that they were the winners of a contest they had entered for a free wedding package from Troy Photography. Next they found out that, as the winners of that contest, they would also receive free flowers from Jessica's Country Flowers. In addition to that, Jessica offered to supply them with invitations and place

cards (which were beautifully handwritten by Jeff's mother), as well as the favor bags for out of town guests. She then took it upon herself to find Kelly of Kelly's Sweet Rewards to contribute a free chocolate ganache and peanut butter mousse cake. Burdick Chocolate provided the couple with their wedding favors: gold boxes filled with five samples of their chocolates, and finally, Troy photography found a videographer also willing to donate their services. Clearly, the wedding was meant to be.

On Friday, September 19, Jeff and Stacie had a traditional Christian ceremony by the gazebo at the Publick House. Stacie walked down the aisle with her father and stepfather in a strapless satin mermaid gown from David's Bridal. Her bridal party also wore dresses from David's, the maid and matron of honor wore fuchsia while the four bridesmaids wore the same Impressions dress in eggplant. The two junior bridesmaids wore lilac dresses, altogether complementing the colors in Stacie's elegant bouquet. Jessica's final surprise for