





AT LAST



AMY STONE AND MARK HAGGARTY • SEPTEMBER 1, 2002

BY NATALIE TAYLOR • PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALTUS PHOTO DESIGN

Left: Mark and Amy exchanged their vows on a crisp autumn day in Deer Valley. Her bouquet of fall flowers, designed by Holly Paulos of Artichokes and Company, consisted of bells of Ireland, ranunculus, and posey calla lilies.

Top left: Flower girl Emily Bruell gets a little coaxing from event coordinator Lillie Garrido of Soirée Productions.

Top right: Amy and Mark exchanged vows under a huppah.

Bottom right: Bridesmaids Carey Cusimano, Lindsey Kanter, Lori Armon, Elizabeth Haggarty, and Melanie Steinbach, and the bride Amy.

Although Mark Haggarty and Amy Stone believe they passed each other one night at O'Shucks Bar & Grill in 1998, it wasn't until 1999 that the two officially met while working at the same Internet company.

Mark and Amy were just friends at first, but that platonic relationship soon blossomed into romance. After a year and half of dating, Mark left Amy a letter with details of what to pack for a weekend trip. The couple drove down the California coastline on Highway 1, stopping on a deserted beach to fly a kite. Mark had tied a note

and a fake ring to the end of the string. When the kite lifted into the air, both the ring and note fell into Amy's hand. "Mark then scrambled around a bit in the sand because the real ring—a platinum band with a princess cut center stone flanked with several baguettes—had fallen out of his pocket," says Amy. He then got on his knee to propose. Amy tackled him in the sand before saying yes.

Mark and Amy incorporated unique elements in their save-the-date invitations by copy-



Top left: Mark and Amy dancing the Horah—a Jewish tradition in which the bride and groom (and their parents) are lifted up on chairs. It's the first dance after dinner.



Top right: Mark escorted down the aisle by his parents Cathy and Kevin Haggarty.

ing favorite photo strips of themselves taken in arcade booths and attaching them to the mailers.

Shortly after the more formal invitations were mailed, the pre-wedding festivities began. "Neither of us wanted the rowdy and raunchy traditional bachelor/bachelorette parties," says Amy. "We just wanted to bond with our close friends." So Amy flew to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin for a casual weekend on the lake with the girls, and Mark rented a cabin in Lake Tahoe, Nevada with the boys.

The wedding ceremony was held on September 1 on the outdoor deck of Stein Eriksen Lodge in Deer Valley with 200 guests as witnesses. The reception followed in the Olympic Conference Center of the lodge.

Amy and Mark rented a photo booth so guests could take home pictures of themselves as party favors. A friend created a box of props for the photos—funny hats, masks, leis, and wigs. "It was great seeing friends lined up outside the booth looking like they were going to a costume party," says Amy.

Amy felt regal in her Christiana Couture of London strapless gown with lace bodice and silk organza skirt from Marina Morrison in San Francisco. She wore a hand-made headpiece of pearls and blue crystals.

The five bridesmaids wore dresses made by Thread. The three-quarter length skirts in merlot tones complemented the burnished bronze and golds in the aspen leaves on the surrounding mountainside.

Amy and Mark incorporated elements from their Jewish and Catholic backgrounds as well as wrote their own vows to weave together a beautifully balanced ceremony. Reverend Paddy Wood, an interfaith minister, officiated.

In Jewish tradition, the bridal couple is escorted down the aisle by both sets of parents. "We loved this way of involving all four parents," says Amy. The ceremony included the Jewish traditions of breaking of the glasses, the unity candle, and the huppah. They chose readings from the Old Testament as well as modern readings from *The Alchemist*, and an Apache wedding blessing. All rituals

were explained in the program so the guests were involved in the entire process.

After the ceremony, guests enjoyed appetizers and cocktails on the deck as the sun set. They were then ushered in to a dinner prepared by the chefs at Stein Eriksen Lodge. The dinner consisted of a duet of prime beef tenderloin, wild New Zealand salmon and Yukon gold mashed potatoes. For dessert, guests indulged in a wedding cake made of white chocolate mousse and fresh raspberries.

Mark and Amy chose *At Last* by Etta James for their first dance as a married couple. "There were all the lights, cameras, and guests," says Mark. "But when we danced together everything just fell away, and we had this moment of solitude." The Joe Muscolino Band soon had all the guests dancing the rest of the evening.

After their wedding, Mark and Amy headed south to Moab for some rest and relaxation. They later honeymooned in Belize and Guatemala over New Year's.

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