

2023 Bridal Guide



Popular and lasting wedding traditions

Weddings are steeped in tradition. Some of those traditions may be exclusive to particular families, but many others are embraced by families of various backgrounds.

Couples needn't feel beholden to popular wedding traditions, but some may feel that these customs make their weddings more fun and serve as a great way to connect their ceremonies with those of their parents, grandparents and possibly even their ancestors.

Old, new, borrowed, blue

The rhyme "something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue" is likely familiar to people about to get married. This traditional rhyme has existed for centuries and refers to items a bride should wear and keep with her on her wedding day. The old alludes to a bride's past, the new refers to her future, the borrowed is intended to be something borrowed from a married couple or bride, and the blue is a symbol of purity, love and fidelity. These items are traditionally given to the bride-to-be by family members or female friends who are already married.

Bridal veil

It's now up to brides if they want to wear a veil on their wedding day, but it was once a tradition all brides adhered to. Some trace the tradition back to ancient Greece, while others suggest the tradition began in the days of the Roman Empire. Veils were believed to shield brides from evil spirits on her wedding day, thus paving the way for a healthy and happy future. Many brides still wear veils today, though likely due more to their aesthetic appeal than out of a belief that the veil will ward off evil spirits. Some brides still use veils to cover their face as they walk up the aisle, while others flip the veil over their heads.

Gifting knives

Perhaps one of the lesser known superstitions surrounding weddings, giving knives as a wedding gift is a no-no for some people. The origins of this superstition are uncertain, but people who abide by this tradition feel that knives are symbolic of a broken relationship. That would likely come as a surprise to the many engaged couples who have a set of knives on their wedding registries.

Carrying the bride over the threshold

Historians trace this tradition, which Hollywood has undoubtedly helped to keep alive, all the way back to medieval Europe. Also inspired by a bride's perceived vulnerability to evil spirits, the tradition of a groom carrying his bride over the threshold into their new home was believed to keep the spirits from entering the home through the soles of the bride's feet.

Breaking glass

Couples break glass for different reasons on their wedding days. Within the Jewish faith, one member of the couple will stomp on a carefully wrapped glass to serve as a reminder of the destruction of the Jewish temples and to inspire reflection among those in attendance. Italian newlyweds also may smash glass, but they'll do it with a little more gusto. Local tradition in Italy dictated that, at the end of the wedding, the newly married couple would smash a wine glass. Folklore suggests that the number of pieces the glass breaks into indicates how many years the couple will stay together.

Tradition is part and parcel of many weddings. Some traditions are more solemn than others, but all can add something meaningful, dramatic and even a little fun to the ceremony.



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Arizona & Luke Shaffer

Venue: The Barn at Cedar Grove
 Photographer: Brittany Miller
 Ceremony Date: June 17, 2023



Rachel & Brady Baker

Venue: Family Property
 Photographer: Alex Antle
 Ceremony Date: October 15, 2022



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How to choose the right wedding officiant

Receptions may get their fair share of attention, but the ceremony is the true centerpiece of a wedding. This is the part of the day when the couple will exchange vows and pledge their love and devotion to one another. It's also the time when the wedding license is signed and the union becomes official.

An officiant is an essential part of any wedding. This person is responsible for leading the ceremony and ensuring that all requirements are met so that the marriage is legal. He or she will guide the exchange of vows and helps set the tone of the wedding.

Officiants vary depending on the ceremony, including religious, non-denominational or even family or friend. Since the officiant's role is so significant, it is important to give careful consideration to potential officiants before making a final decision.

Know the rules governing your ceremony location

If you will be having a religious ceremony in a house of worship, there may be some restrictions regarding who can officiate the wedding. Traditionally, a priest/minister, rabbi or imam must preside over a ceremony

in a house of worship. Even though there are some limitations, you may be able to choose the religious leader with whom you are friendly or whose sermons speak to you.

Know what you want

Some officiants may not have formal training or lots of experience officiating weddings, particularly if couples ask a friend or family member to do the honor. Leaving it entirely up to the person may not be the wisest choice, as you may be surprised by what the officiant says. It's best to give the officiant a list of guidelines to see if the person will meld with your vision. When interviewing officiants, note what's most important to you. It also can help if couples try to determine if an officiant's sense of humor aligns with their own.

Check for skills

Professional officiants treat this as a business and have amassed skills throughout the years. They likely will have websites and reviews that you can read through. Consider

attending an upcoming wedding to see how a particular officiant performs on the big day.

When selecting an amateur, know that an officiant should have public speaking skills and be able to relate to the audience. Someone who is shy or stumbles over words might not be the right person to put in front of guests.

Has the time

Of course all the details cannot fall into place if the officiant is booked or doesn't have the time to tackle such a big component of the wedding. The officiant needs to meet with you several times, write the ceremony, attend rehearsals, and actually officiate. It's important the person you ask has the flexibility to meet all of these responsibilities.

Officiants feature prominently in a wedding. Choosing the right person to perform this important function is a big decision that requires careful consideration.

Alex & Noah Thomas

Venue: Lakeview Lodge & Barn

Photographer: Jessi Janes

Ceremony Date: August 5, 2023

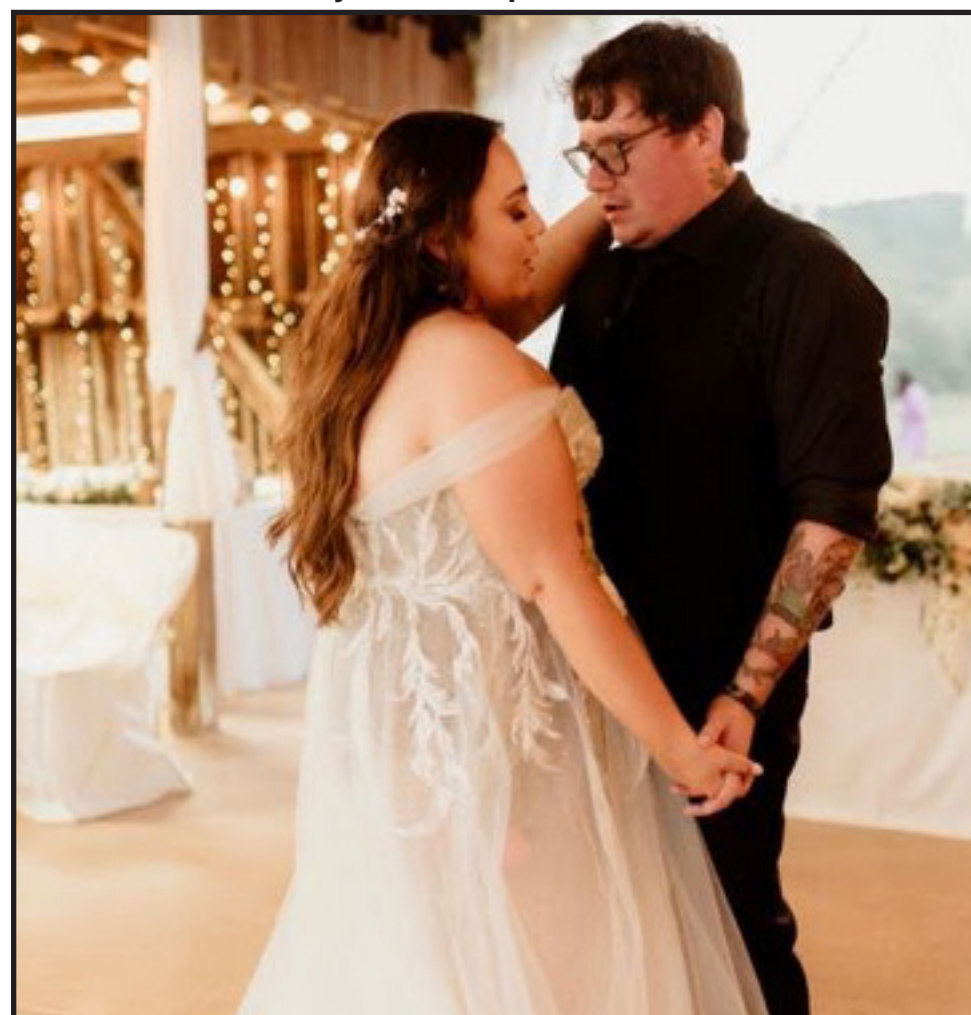


Cheyenne & Jason Thrasher

Venue: Creekside Barn

Photographer: Jessi Janes

Ceremony Date: September 9, 2023





Mary Kate & Cody Reeder

Ceremony Date: October 29, 2022

Venue: Warrenwood Manor

**Photographer: Paige Michelle
Photography**



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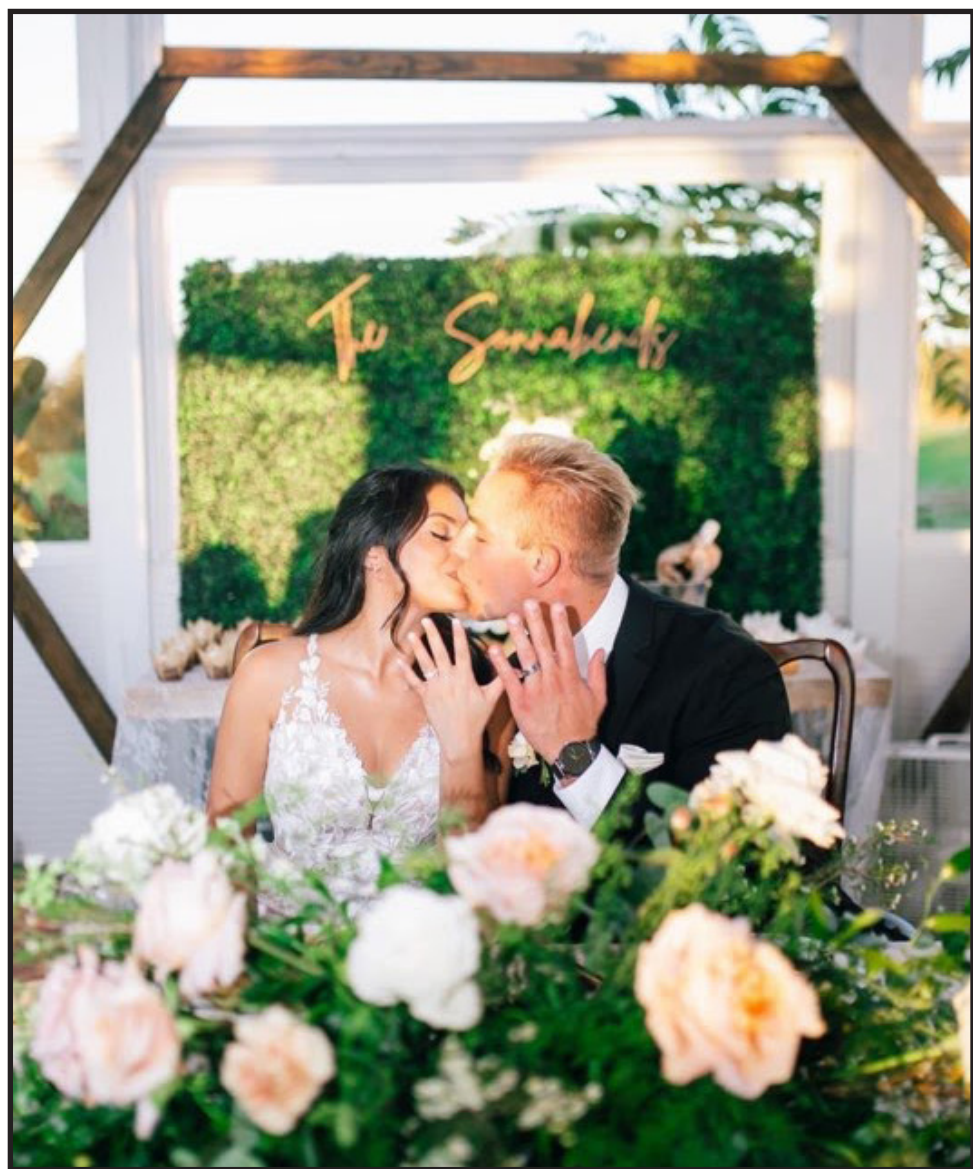


Katie & Stephen Stilts

Venue: Liberty Missionary Baptist Church
 Photographer: Crystal Moran Photography
 Ceremony Date: October 22, 2022

Yayi & Will Sonnabend

Venue: The Glass Parlor
 Photographer: Time Garden Photography
 Ceremony Date: October 1, 2023



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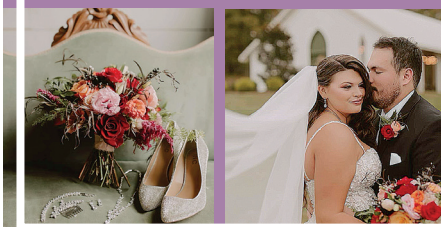
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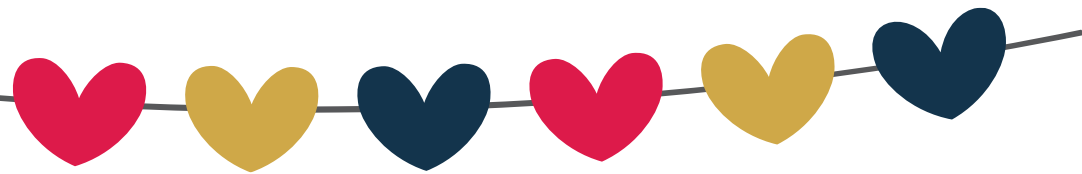
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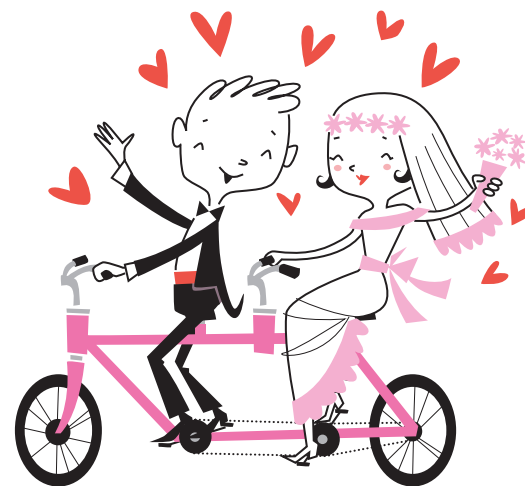


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Hazel & Simon Coblentz

Venue: Creekside Barn
 Photographer: Mckenzie Bennett Photography
 Ceremony Date: October 21, 2022



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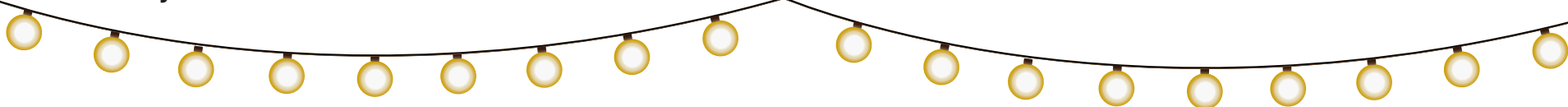


Abby & Alex Evans

Venue: Family Property
 Photographer: Heather Evans
 Ceremony Date: October 19, 2023

Ava & Isaiah Morgan

Venue: The Barn at Goose Creek
 Photographer: Candice Robertson Photography
 Ceremony Date: April 15, 2023



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Beth & Jamie Cole

Venue: Friend's Property
 Photographer: JaCinda Warner
 Ceremony Date: September 30, 2023



Savannah & Clint Garrison

Venue: The Barn at Cedar Grove
 Photographer: Pierce Brockman Photography
 Ceremony Date: May 6, 2023



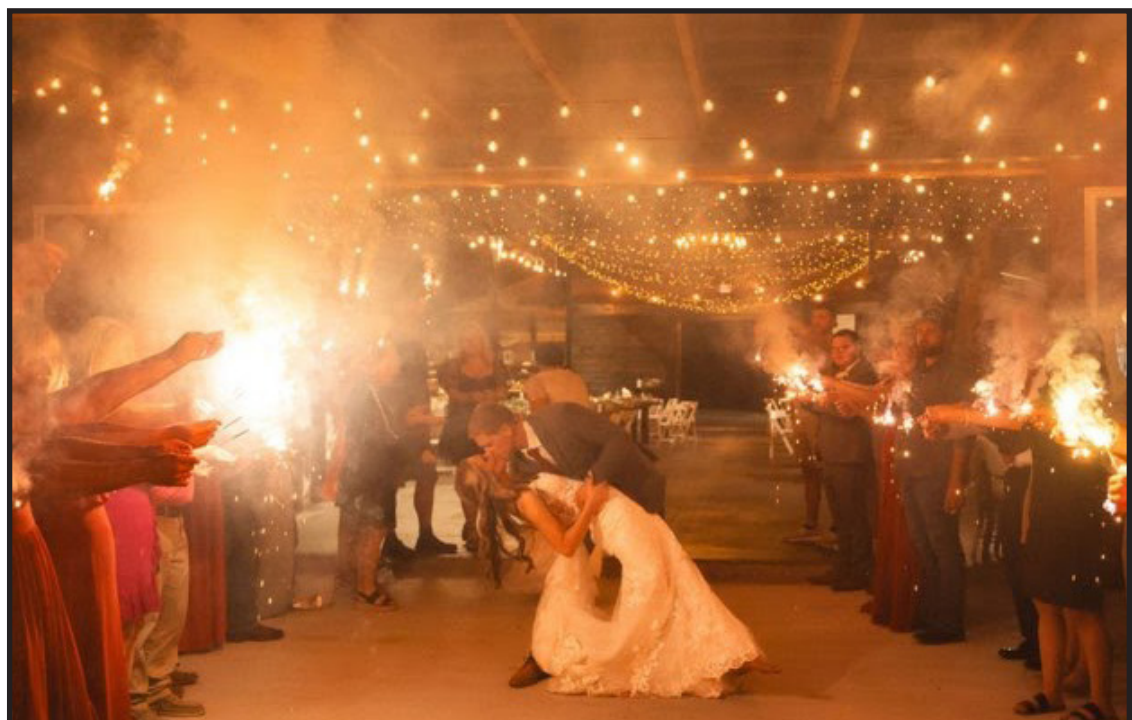
Natalie & Ty Jones

Venue: Lakeview Barn & Lodge
Photographer: Kentucky Songbird Photography
Ceremony Date: September 23, 2023



Macy & Landon Shively

Venue: The Barn at Cedar Grove
Photographer: Alexa Loy Photography
Ceremony Date: May 27, 2023



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Jamika & Franck Bikoya

Venue: The City Farm

Photographer: Summer Kemp
Photography

Ceremony Date: September 30, 2023



The Big Creek Barn

Old fashioned barn built in the 1950's

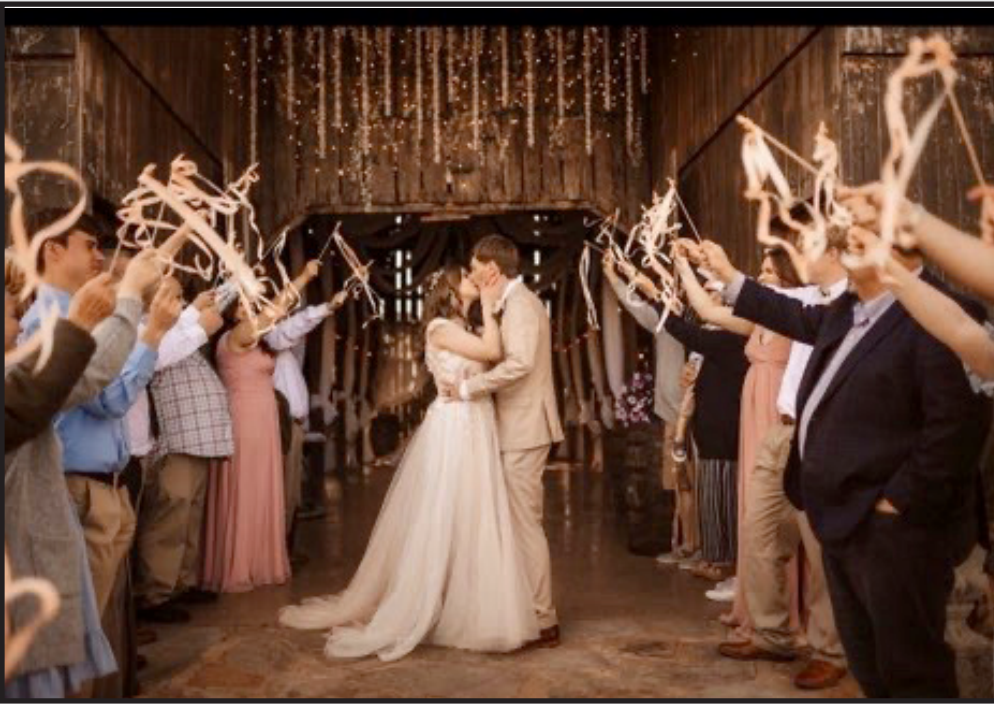
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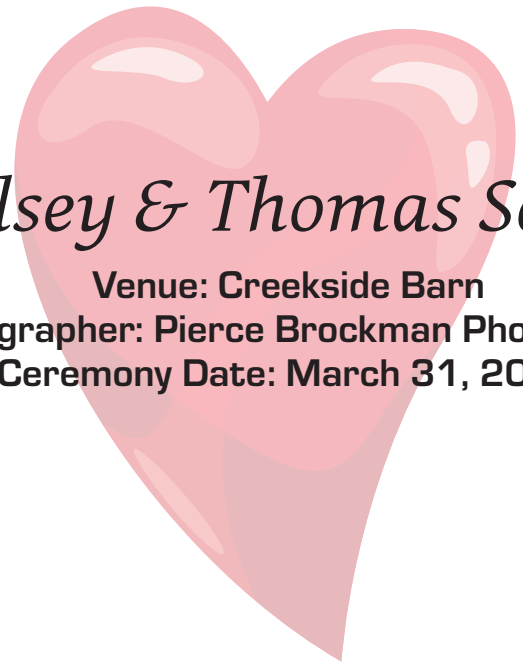


Charlsey & Thomas Scott III

Venue: Creekside Barn

Photographer: Pierce Brockman Photography

Ceremony Date: March 31, 2023



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Laura & Joe Anthony

Venue: The Blanford House

Photographer: Caleb Irvin

Ceremony Date: October 22, 2022



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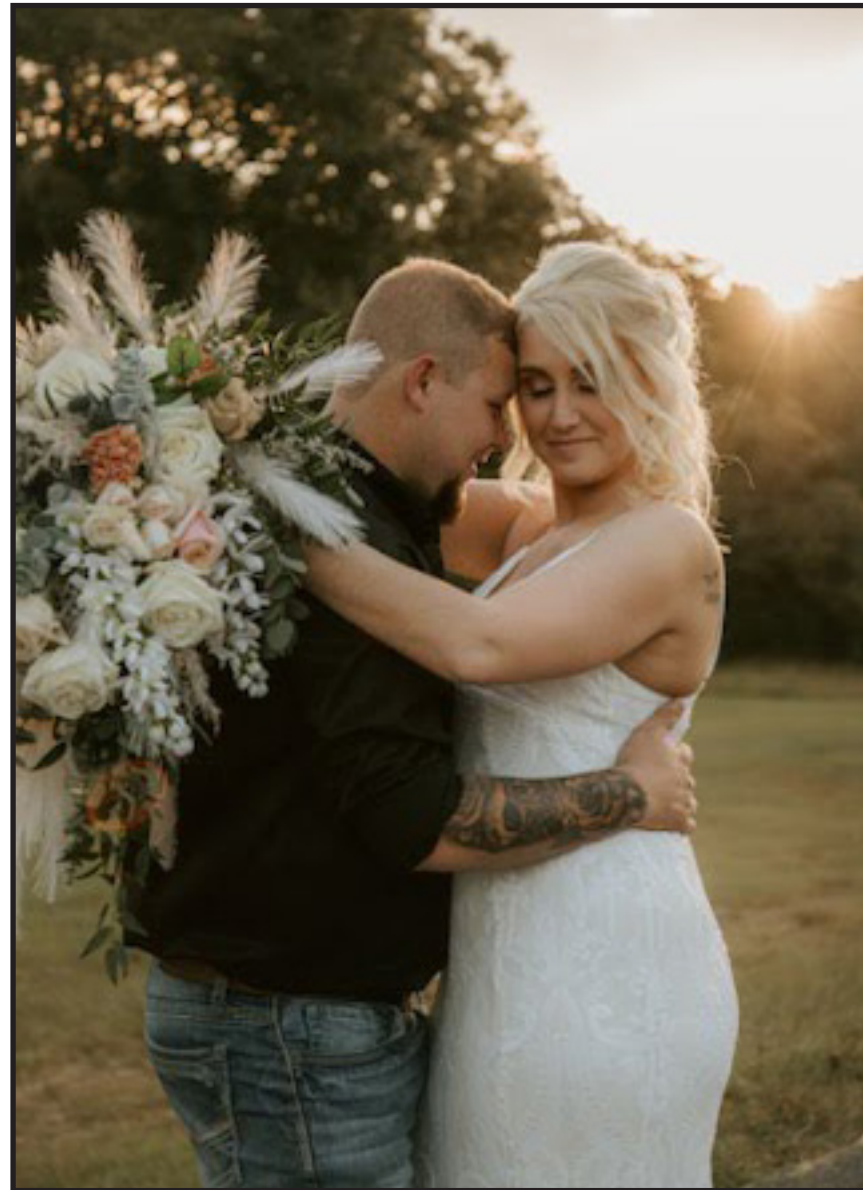
*Alexis & Tristan
Watson*

Venue: Lindsey Wilson Chapel
 Photographer: Jessi Janes
 Ceremony Date: December 17, 2022



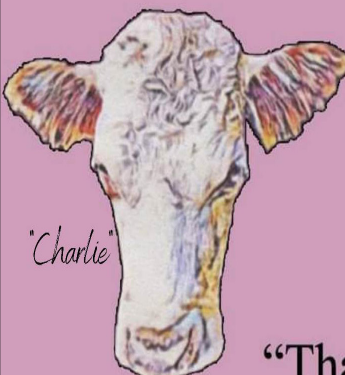
Samantha & Conway Loy

Venue: Creekside Barn
 Photographer: Mackenzie Bennett Photography
 Ceremony Date: September 30, 2023



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Jessica & Tyshon Kinkade

Venue: Boots and Bells Farm
Photographer: Lindsay Faith Garmon
Ceremony Date: September 16, 2023

Mallory & Tristan Beard

Venue: The Barn at Cedar Grove
Photographer: Alex Antle
Ceremony Date: September 16, 2023





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