

BRANDON + PAT'S CEREMONY

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Hello, hoffa day, and yauk sheymash!

Welcome friends, family, and fans of this amazing couple. I say “fans” because I truly believe that to know Brandon & Pat is to become a bit starstruck by their kindness, their compassion, but, most of all, by their love for each other. I don't know about you all, but getting to know Brandon & Pat left me hopeful, inspired, & feeling optimistic about life & love. Couples this special do not come along often...and today we are lucky enough to watch them take the final step together. I am genuinely giddy for you two today, as I know your guests are as well!

True to their natures, Brandon & Pat would like to begin with a lei ceremony. The “lei” is a symbol of welcome, of appreciation, of beauty.....of 'aloha.' Much like lighting a unity candle, a lei ceremony shows not just the uniting of two flames but of two families. Pat & Brandon sincerely thank their families for everything they have done for them throughout their lives and for supporting them every step of the way. At this time, Brandon and Pat will present the leis to their families...

Now Brandon & Pat will place open-ended leis around each other's neck. They will tie the loose ends together. In their united leis, the circle is now complete and symbolizes that their love is never-ending.

How did Pat and Brandon's journey begin? In 2005, Pat showed up at Brandon's house dressed as a Chippendale. No, not because of what you're probably thinking. Brandon was actually throwing a Halloween party and was himself dressed as a cowboy. Not too long after, and Concepcion, you probably didn't know this, but Pat withdrew all—yes, *all*—of his money from the bank to woo Brandon on their first date. Fast-forward two years later, in 2007, Brandon was on a business trip in Hawaii. Unfortunately, Pat was not able to attend, but had he have been able to, Brandon was planning to propose on the beach.

While there, all Brandon could think about was Pat, and how he wished they were together. Before the end of his trip, Brandon happened to walk into Tiffany and saw two gorgeous rings. Without hesitation, he knew they were the ones that he could see both of them wearing forever. While on the plane ride home, Brandon planned out exactly how he was going to finally pop the question. The next day, Brandon had sprinkled paper scraps around their apartment with special dates written on them, each with it's own candle.

As soon as Pat got home from work, Brandon made him change into his PJs, and guided him to the start of what was to be an emotional journey. They collected each paper scrap and reminisced about the special memory from that particular date, and lit the candle. The last paper was sitting on top of the ring box and simply read “Forever.”



So let's move on to the business of "Forever." Pat and Brandon, are you ready for the first step in your lifelong journey together as a married couple?

And now, Pat, please repeat after me...

I pledge my honesty, open-ness, & faithfulness to you / & my un-dying support / honoring your individual journey / & to prioritize our relationship & family/ I promise to respect you & honor / & our relationship above others / to allow you to make your own mistakes / being there for you if you fall / to love & comfort you in anger, sadness, or disappointment / to forgive you when you make a mistake or hurt my feelings / to be your adoring lover, admiring husband, & best friend / to give you the very best I have of myself, my time, my life / to think back on this moment in times of difficulty & doubt / to speak my feelings & listen with an open mind / to give you my hand & heart, knowing they'll be safe with you / & to tell you I love you everyday.

And, Brandon, please repeat after me...

I pledge my honesty, open-ness, & faithfulness to you / & my un-dying support / honoring your individual journey / & to prioritize our relationship & family/ I promise to respect you & honor / & our relationship above others / to allow you to make your own mistakes / being there for you if you fall / to love & comfort you in anger, sadness, or disappointment / to forgive you when you make a mistake or hurt my feelings / to be your adoring lover, admiring husband, & best friend / to give you the very best I have of myself, my time, my life / to think back on this moment in times of difficulty & doubt / to speak my feelings & listen with an open mind / to give you my hand & heart, knowing they'll be safe with you / & to tell you I love you everyday.

Pat, do you take Brandon to be your lawfully wedded husband...promising to love, honor, cherish, and support him, forsaking all others? [I do]

Brandon, do you take Pat to be your lawfully wedded husband...promising to love, honor, cherish, and support him, forsaking all others? [I do]

It's time for the rings now. Pat, please take Brandon's ring and repeat after me as you slide it on his ring finger...

I promise to carry a piece of today's magic with me forever / and wear it proudly on my left ring finger / so the world will know / that I was the lucky one / to win your love and devotion.

Brandon, please take Pat's ring and repeat after me as you slide it on his ring finger...

I promise to carry a piece of today's magic with me forever / and wear it proudly on my left ring finger / so the world will know / that I was the lucky one / to win your love and devotion.

Now let's take a moment to bow our heads, blessing these two and their new bond...God, please watch over Pat and Brandon, guiding them, keeping them strong, faithful, and in love.



Give them patience in times of frustration, laughter in times of stress, and peace in times of grief. Allow the light of their love to serve as a model for others. But, most of all, we ask you to watch over their family and friends, especially Pat's dad, who we very much wish could be here to celebrate with us today. We thank you, God, for your many, many blessings, particularly for bringing these two bookends together. In the name of the father, the son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

This is the moment...Pat and Brandon are about to boldly go where no one has gone before... into this marriage, into this sacred, eternal bond that no one will ever know but the two of you. I guess we could call it...the 'final frontier.' [Hold up hand in a "V" like Dr. Spock]

May you live long and prosper...for I now legally pronounce you husbands. You may now seal this marriage with a kiss!

Please join us for cocktails on the other side of the restaurant in the reception area and get ready for a celebration that you'll never forget! Please don't forget to sign the guest book! Use the silver sharpie and sign on any page you'd like around the photos.

