

Kassidy Potts & David Thomas
July 8, 2006

Written by Tara Hall
photos by
Wedding Photography by Roy Allen Stagg

David and Kassidy Thomas' love story reads like a romantic fairy tale. The two first crossed paths in the eighth grade and began dating their junior year at Frenship High School, just outside Lubbock, Texas. David, a key member of the school's football team, received several athletic scholarships to universities throughout the nation. He and Kassidy made the decision together, settling on the University of Texas, which offered fantastic opportunities for both—a prestigious football experience for David and a first-class education program for Kassidy's career aspirations.

Throughout their college years, David and Kassidy nurtured their relationship, maintaining their vows of purity and taking time for prayer together. It was at one of the couple's favorite prayer spots, Austin's Mount Bonnell overlooking Lake Austin, that David surprised his girlfriend of five years with an intimate sunset proposal and a gorgeous round-cut solitaire engagement ring. Giving themselves a year and three days to prepare, the couple set a wedding date of July 8, 2006.

With several engaged friends and an organized mother at her disposal, Kassidy took on the daunting task of planning the hometown wedding herself. After breaking the exciting news to both sides of the family right away, Kassidy immediately got to work, beginning the following day on a photo slide show. The couple reserved the First Baptist Church in downtown Lubbock, a beautiful location that could easily hold the several hundred guests they were expecting, including high school friends and teachers as well as University of Texas buddies.

With David's successful football career as a Longhorn in full swing—not only had he broken several records as a tight end, he also helped the team clench the 2006 BCS championship with a record-setting 10 receptions in the Rose Bowl—Kassidy took the reigns on the wedding. When she graduated from U.T. in December 2005, she moved home to Lubbock to tie up the wedding's loose ends; David remained in Austin. Just three short months before the wedding, David was drafted by the New England Patriots—a happy turn-of-events, but one that made him an even busier fiancé.

The couple's friends and family played a large role in the preparation for their union. At Kassidy's bridal shower, after the food, fun and gifts, attending ladies helped stuff the 500 wedding invitations and wrap pretty pink ribbons on the little bottles of bubbles. A beautician in the



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family took care of Cassidy's wedding day hair; her youth pastor served as the wedding officiant.

For Cassidy, the wedding dress was the single most important aspect, and she found it in a white lace gown with pearl accents. With that selected, she worked her way through the remaining details, choosing soft pearl pink bridesmaids' dresses and traditional black tuxedos for the groomsmen. A bouquet of pink and white roses with touches of greenery, pearls and black ribbon tied it all together.

When the big day finally rolled around, the betrothed couple couldn't have been happier. With the wedding ceremony scheduled for 3pm, the morning was devoted to preparation. David and Cassidy opted to have the wedding photos taken prior to the ceremony to allow time at the reception for mingling and to insure they made their 7pm flight to Dallas. David stood at the front of the church and watched as Cassidy's father walked her down the aisle to take photographs-his first glimpse of the stunning bride-to-be. With the pictures complete, the two were left alone for a few minutes to gather their thoughts and pray together.

The hour-long ceremony went off without a hitch, including the picturesque ending. Once the wedded couple left the nave, guests were guided to the front of the church, row by row. With guests in place, David and Cassidy returned. A group photo ensued, guests, wedding party and all, taken from the balcony above.

The celebration continued with a simple reception, held conveniently at the church. David and Cassidy kept it personal with a meet and greet line where they were able to talk one-on-one with friends and family. A talented pianist provided ambient music as guests mingled and nibbled on traditional appetizers provided by the church.

With everyone greeted, the newlyweds moved on to the cutting of the cakes. Cassidy's was a white, five-tier cake with tasteful pink accents including the couple's initials. David's three chocolate cakes - a tiger paw for the Frenship High School team, a longhorn for his time at the University of Texas and a Patriot for his blossoming future with New England's NFL team - were more whimsical, representing his impressive football career. And, despite Cassidy's distaste for chocolate, she allowed David to feed her a bite of his groom's cake for the traditional photo op.

By early evening, the happy couple made their exit, excited to celebrate their first night as a wedded pair in Dallas. A luxurious trip to Los Angeles for the ESPY Awards with fellow Longhorns Vince Young and Cedric Griffin followed a couple days later, serving as a temporary honeymoon where the two were finally able to enjoy quality time together in a lush suite at the Mondrian Hotel.

With spring training for the Patriots just a few days away, however, the Thomas didn't have much time to relax. It wasn't until recently, in the

spring of 2007, that David and Cassidy finally had a chance to indulge in a full-fledged honeymoon, this time to the island of Maui.

Looking back, Cassidy is glad she took the preparation of the wedding on herself and didn't let the little things get the best of her because in the end, the most important part was "to be with David all day, and finally, after being together so long, to finally be married, to be his wife and not just his girlfriend or fiancé." ♦

Ceremony & Reception Location:
 First Baptist Church Lubbock, TX
 Phone: 806 747-0281 | www.fbclubbock.com
Photographer: Roy Allen Stagg
 Phone: 512 238-8991 | www.RoyAllenStagg.com
Bridal Gown Purchased at: David's Bridal
Bridesmaid Dresses Purchased at: David's Bridal
www.DavidsBridal.com
Men's Formal Wear: Menis Warehouse
www.MensWareHouse.com
Flowers: Town South Floral
 Phone: 800 658-9536 | www.TownSouthFloral.com
Favors: Candy Creations
 Phone: 806 785-5557 | www.ACandyCreation.com
Cake: Cake Palace
 Phone: 806 998-4068
Honeymoon: Los Angeles California,
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