

# Beth & Aric: A Festive Cincinnati Celebration Lasts into the Night

by Susan Berryman | Apr 15 '04



A Memorial Day trip to San Francisco took a monumental detour for Elizabeth (Beth) Macke and Aric Hassel. The two had planned a long weekend in the Bay Area, but, as Beth would soon discover, Aric had somewhere else in mind.



**THE BRIDE** : Beth Macke, vice president of a real estate development company



**THE GROOM** : Aric Hassel, senior financial analyst



**THE DATE** : May 18, 2002

**THE SCENE** : St. Peter in Chains Cathedral

## THE PROPOSAL

"After some research, I decided to surprise Beth with a three-day excursion to the Sonoma wine country," says Aric. Once they had toured vineyards on Friday and Saturday, Aric set his proposal in motion. He'd secretly phoned ahead to the Iron Horse Vineyard and arranged for a gourmet picnic to be waiting for the couple. "When we arrived at the vineyard, the lady working the counter handed us a bottle of their Wedding Cuvee and two champagne flutes, and said that the garden was around back," remembers Aric. "At this point, Beth was still in the dark." In the garden gazebo, they found a private table set with fresh-cut flowers and a gourmet picnic. Following lunch and a stroll through the gardens, Aric knelt down on one knee and asked Beth to be his wife.

## THE PLANNING

The planning for their spring celebration began right away. Their ceremony was officiated by the same priest who married Beth's parents 27 years ago. "My favorite moment of the day was when the church doors opened and I could see everyone turn around and stand up to watch my dad and me enter," remembers Beth. "I wasn't able to see Aric until I was

halfway down the aisle, but when I finally saw him smiling at me, it was the highlight of my day."

### **THE CELEBRATION**

At the reception, guests toasted the newlyweds with Iron Horse Wedding Cuvee, the champagne the couple had toasted with when they were engaged at the Iron Horse Vineyard. Everyone mingled over an assortment of hors d'oeuvres, then dined on beef with Bearnaise sauce, stuffed chicken breasts, and Beth's family recipe for penne pasta with an uncooked tomato, basil, and fresh mozzarella sauce.

After dinner, the DJ kept the dance floor packed with a good mix of songs that got everyone moving -- even Beth's grandmother. "Usually, I'm the one that always wants to stay out late," laughs Aric, "so I was extremely surprised when Beth came running up to me at midnight and asked if we could keep the DJ for another hour. We were having the time of our lives and we didn't want it to end!"

Photography © John Howard

### **INGREDIENTS**

**CEREMONY SITE** : St. Peter in Chains Cathedral (513) 421-5354

**OFFICIANT** :Father Anthony Muller

**RECEPTION SITE** : Pebble Creek Golf Course (513) 923-1188

**PHOTOGRAPHY** : John Howard, Photography by John Howard & Associates (513) 683-2501

**VIDEOGRAPHY** : American Video (513) 522-5700

**WEDDING CONSULTANT** : Mary J. Padro, Pebble Creek Golf Course

**WEDDING GOWN** : Ann Winters of London, European Bridal (513) 821-6505

**VEIL** : Joyce Jackson, European Bridal

**JEWELRY** : Fleming's Fine Jewelry (513) 661-9229

**HEADPIECE** : Paris Hats and Veils (513) 948-8888

**HAIR & MAKEUP** : Mitchell's Salon and Day Spa (513) 731-0600, Hyde Park

**BRIDESMAID DRESSES** : Vera Wang, Bridal & Formal (513) 821-6622

**FORMALWEAR** : Peppe Ramundo and Son Custom Tailors (513) 921-2400

**FLOWERS** : Adrian Durban Florists (513) 221-8222

**CATERING** : Pebble Creek Golf Course

**MUSIC** : Rick Juler Systems (513) 451-5254

**CAKE** : The Bonbonerie (513) 321-3399

**TRANSPORTATION** : L&L Limousine (859) 635-5466

**ACCOMODATIONS** : Netherland Plaza (513) 421-9100

**HONEYMOON** : Dominican Republic