



SUSAN McNAMARA *to* JOE RENZI
8.26.11



There were fireworks right from the start. Joe Renzi and Susan McNamara first met at a 4th of July party in Bristol, RI. Susan almost passed on the party, but a friend convinced her to come along. Joe was talking to another friend of Susan's when they were introduced, "and then he just followed me around all night," she says.

Four years of dating culminated in the wedding of their dreams on August 26th, and a return to the site of their first encounter for some pre-ceremony photos. "Our friends let us take pictures at the house and dock before the wedding," says Susan. "Joe had me stand right in the place where he first saw me.

"My entire family is from Bristol and because it's also where we met, we wanted to get married here. We chose the town first, then Linden Place." Susan describes the tone they were seeking as "elegantly fun." "We were able to do it just the way we wanted," says Susan. "I can't thank my parents enough. They let us make every decision. I'm the only girl, with three brothers, so this was my mother's chance to plan a wedding, but she let us do it all our way. The whole thing was a surprise to everyone. [more>](#)

BY LENORE CULLEN BARNES



Featured Vendors

Reception Linden Place

Photography Alexandra Cordts Photographer

Catering Russell Morin Fine Catering

Tent Newport Tent Company

Wedding Band M.R.T. Jewelers

See resources for additional information



We tried so hard to make it a celebration, a party."

Photographer Alexandra Cordts says the venue was "perfect." "As a photographer, I couldn't ask for anything better," she says. "Linden Place is beautiful to shoot and we lucked out with the light. Susan's dark hair and figure made a very pretty silhouette. She was very elegant in her sophisticated gown."

Susan and Joe opted for a "free-flowing" style at the reception, foregoing a traditional sit-down dinner for an array of caterers' stations spread both indoors and out. "No one had to sit next to someone for four hours," says Susan. "It was relaxing and not stuffy. And Russell Morin are the best caterers in the world!" An ice cream bar from Coldstone Creamery and a vodka and Del's Lemonade cart added to the light-hearted spirit of the day. "There wasn't one spoon of ice cream left," laughs Susan. "I think some people went a little crazy!"