

Priscilla Borges and David Ernst are in “Karst Farm Park” for their Celebration

*(Climbing the tree, getting the cups filled with water and wine, and the camera)* Bloomington, January 16, 2008

P: My dear David, here we are up in this tree in Bloomington, to celebrate our union, our love and life. The shapes, sounds and colors of nature shall constantly remind us of life's complexities, beauty and endless possibilities. I therefore wish our future will continue to be fulfilled with joy, good health, happiness, companionship, growing, serenity, wisdom, mindfulness, peace, love and success. I also wish the blessings of humankind be upon us now and forever.

D: My dear Priscilla, here we are up in this tree in Bloomington, to celebrate our union, love and our selves. I believe each of us to be a remarkable individual. I believe that our relationship enhances each of our selves. I want to understand you to the best of my ability. I want to understand your goals and desires, and I want to help you to focus on them and to fulfill them. I want you to understand me as well as I can be understood. I want you to know my goals and desires, and I value your efforts to help me to fulfill them. I want our goals and our desires to include each other and each other's goals and desires, and I want us to work on them together.

P: Let's take our cup filled with wine. This cup of wine symbolizes the sum of our life's experiences. It contains within it the sweet flavors of love, joy, wonder, contentment and richness of life. This same cup holds the bitter taste of sadness. When we drink deeply of this cup of life, we invite the full spectrum of experiences into our life. As we drink from this cup, we accept the commitment to be present and to share ourselves openly, helping to wash away the bitter flavors of life and to savor the sweet flavors we may encounter on our journey together. May our life's joys heightened, its bitterness sweetened, and each of its moments hallowed by true companionship and love.

D: Let's take our cup filled with water. This cup of water symbolizes our living essence. This cup contains an essential substance of life on Earth, and, likely, of any life anywhere else in the cosmos. Water flows through us and through all known life for as long as we are living. When we drink deeply of this cup of life, we drink to our health and our longevity. As we drink from this cup, we accept the commitment to care for one another and to promote each other's health, comfort, joy, pleasure, and serenity. May we know all of these blessings, and share them with each other, and with the others whom we love, and with all of humanity.

P: Let's take a moment of silence and think about all our friends and family members. Even though they are not here now, they are part of the foundation that makes us the people we are. I wish to include them in this ceremony through our minds and hearts, highlighting the importance of having them in our lives and memory (those who already left us).

*( Let's join hands, look into each other's eyes and declare)*

D: Dear Pri, I take you to be my wife from this day forward, to have and to hold, in joy and sorrow, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, sharing openly an especially meaningful life together.

P: Dear David, I take you to be my husband from this day forward, to have and to hold, in joy and sorrow, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, sharing openly an especially meaningful life together.

*(We may now kiss the bride/groom)*

P & D: Now, let us get out of this tree, carefully and safely... because... IT'S FREAKING COLD!!!! ;)