

chicagostyle real weddings: **Suzanne and Brian Morris**

Photographer: **Gerber + Scarpelli Photography** | Venue: **Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel Chicago**



{ *the wedding* }

Suzanne and Brian fell in love while serving with the United States Peace Corps in Mongolia. After their return, the couple enjoyed a visit to the beach in Suzanne's hometown. Brian gave Suzanne handwritten letters to read throughout the evening, and with the last card, he proposed. The ring was a custom design by the groom featuring family heirloom diamonds and sapphires.

Their traditional Catholic ceremony was punctuated by personal anecdotes and "the most talented musicians and powerful songs," says Suzanne. They also involved nine nieces and nephews in their service – including six ring bearers. Suzanne remembers telling Brian, "We are going to have so much fun in life together."

During the cocktail hour, the newlyweds paid tribute to their time in Mongolia with a favorite cultural tradition. They asked guests to tie a ribbon on a tree to wish the couple a wonderful journey through marriage.

Guests entered the reception to a trio of violins, which were a surprise from the bride's parents. They sat down to favor bags of Garrett Popcorn and personalized, handwritten notes from the bride and groom. Beautiful ivory flowers and rich greens graced each table. "The taller centerpieces incorporated a moss, which delicately hung down and was incredibly romantic," explains Suzanne.

Brian and Suzanne were introduced on the balcony of the ballroom, and descended the stairs to wild cheering from their friends and family. They moved right into an elegantly choreographed first dance, and then cut their monogrammed cake. After a delectable dinner and champagne toast, guests hit the dance floor, enjoying the ten-piece orchestra all through the evening. Suzanne reflects, "We hope everyone could feel the love that weekend."

{ *vendors* }

CEREMONY

Old St. Patrick's Church

OFFICIANT

Msgr. John Canary

RECEPTION

Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel Chicago

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gerber + Scarpelli Photography

BRIDE'S GOWN

Le Salon Bridal Couture

HAIR & MAKEUP

Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa

BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES

Elegance Wedding & Evening Wear

STATIONERY

Eight21 Studios Designs by Carol Woldhuis

FLORAL

Taylor & co. Events

SWEETS

Alliance Bakery; Garrett Popcorn Shops

CATERING

Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel Chicago

ENTERTAINMENT

Don Cagen Orchestra

TRANSPORTATION

Second City Trolley