

1972

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"I Would Do It Again"

We were married August 26 1972.

The heat was excruciating but the ceremony was heavenly. The groom slept in but the ushers were sure to get him to the church on time. The reception was filled with over five hundred people, laughter, drink, food, and above all no air conditioning! When you are floating on a cloud though, nothing else seems to matter.

To my surprise, the following day, my husband had arranged a trip of one week to first, Toronto, then on to the great Niagara Falls. Toronto was nice but I personally couldn't wait for the falls. I had been there only as a child and knew all honeymooners went there. On arrival in the falls we checked into the Modern Aire Motel. It was a nice place but we really had planned on a much fancier place. Due to the fact we had no reservations anywhere, we had to take whatever we could. Once settled in we went in search of a restaurant for dinner. Because honeymooners are treated somewhat more special, we had been given a packet of coupons for many events, museums and restaurants.

We greatly appreciated the fact that whatever your taste buds called for, Niagara Falls had it to offer. I was given the choice so I chose Chinese. My husband, being Italian, wasn't thrilled but I guess he figured he must make the bride happy. I was allowed to choose the spot but he had to order. When I tried to explain how to do so, he insisted on no help. The amount of food we ended up with could have fed the entire clientele. The chopsticks he used landed more on his lap than in his mouth. After dining nearly two hours, we walked back to our motel, very slowly, all the while he complained the Chinese food gave him a kink in his neck. To this day he still feels a kink when he has that food.

We toured many museums including Tussauds, Boris Karloff, Burning Springs and on and on. I think the museum that most vividly stays with me was the feature of Frankenstein museum. We were taking turns on choosing museums and he chose this one. Hanging on for dear life we slowly entered. Well, it really wasn't so bad. Werewolves, bats, draculas and other spooks were everywhere. Loosening my blood stopping grip on my husband's arm, I relaxed, realizing we were nearly at the end when suddenly, a Frankenstein jumped out at us! He went one way, I went another, all

He while screaming hysterically. Somehow, I had tipped, skinned both knees after tearing my pants but I made it out to daylight. My husband & I had become separated but we soon found one another and for some unknown reason we laughed until we cried. Deciding to call it a night we headed back to the motel for some rest.

Off to the Skyton's observation deck the next morning. To our understanding one never goes to Niagara Falls and not go up the Skyton. After having left my stomach on the ground, we made our way to the clouds. I may never see a more breath taking view. I could have sat there forever just dreaming! Before returning home, we just had to experience that free spirited feeling again, so on the day of departure we spent the morning floating up there.

We were very comfortable staying at the Moder Aire Motel but wanted the experience of a really ritzy place so we moved over to the Holiday Inn. Rates then were \$26.50 a night and have the receipt to prove it. Our first night there proved to be memorable yet embarrassing. Since doing so much in such a short time, I had begun to feel nauseous. We decided to relax poolside and hope I'd feel better by morning. While I sat in a lounge, my husband

wanted to show me some diving board tricks. Why anyone would want to dive while in a sitting position is beyond me but he did it. To be brief, he ripped open the seat of his swim shirt as it stuck to the board. To be a tease I left him in the water while I finished my pina colada, then I ever so slowly handed him a towel.

Having dinner sent to our room that night, my nausea continued while I sat and watched my husband, Pompeo, chew down, not realizing how a pro swimmer such as him needed his nutrition. As the night progressed I felt worse until Pompeo called the front desk to see if there was a house doctor. We were told the hospital was about our only choice so he called for an ambulance. To our utter amazement not only did an ambulance come but so did the fire department and police!!! Can you imagine how I felt? Here we were in a strange city, in a motel, me in a flimsy nightie, in a room full of uniformed men, on our honeymoon!! Once it was established why the call had been made, I was taken to the emergency ward. At first the doctor was sure I had an about to burst appendix but after hours of waiting, a bladder infection was the culprit. You may think after all this, it would be enough to send us

jacking for home but, it was our honeymoon. Besides we had plenty more to see.

The gardens everywhere were beautiful. Proprietors were always thoughtful and friendly. The falls is a wonder all its own. Personally I think they are most beautiful at night. Unfortunately I could not bring myself to go on the Maid of the Mist but perhaps next time.

The trip, although short, was fabulous. With the many trials and tribulations we experienced, it is our most memorable trip ever. The day we left we said we would return and we have. We were lucky to be able to take our three children twice and each time my husband repeats the story of our first trip to the falls. He had always gone in summer but I've heard fall & winter are just as gorgeous if not more so, therefore if we can make it there again we'll try for that time.

Niagara Falls is not only a place for honeymooners but for anyone wanting to dream! Thanks for the memories.

Sincerely,

Robeen Marchetta

P.S. Wanted so badly to send a picture but due to a flood, our Niagara photos were all washed away!