

1972

Dear Niagara Gazette,

Twenty years ago my husband and I started the journey of marriage together in the "honeymoon capital of the world, Niagara Falls". I don't think I knew then just how much the state of matrimony resembled the natural wonder. The decision to spend our honeymoon in Niagara Falls was based on affordability and convenience with little understanding of the symbolic nature of the falls or the union we were entering. Honeymoon travelers can begin their discovery of life amidst the splendor and romance of Niagara.

In retrospect I wish I'd spent more time actually exploring the natural wonder. The rocks and ice have not been absent from our twenty year journey. (I think we may have considered turning off the water once or twice.) Then love can burst as the water from the falls in the least predictable and explosive fashion restoring some natural wonder to your life. Nature's heavenliness cannot be denied.

Our honeymoon began

December 1, 1972, following a small wedding blessed by the priest to satisfy our parents. After comparing the tax advantage of legalizing our union versus state we decided to marry by the end of the year and file jointly. Food and drink were too abundant. It was only after seeing rice in our hair that immigration officials allowed our passage.

Discovering Chinese Food, coin operated beds, shopping, gardens, and a man on the tight rope all remind me of the glorious time we had in Niagara Falls. There is nothing exotic about us, average middle class married people in Deloy New York there is something special about these memories. The fact that we shared the beginning of our life together as millions of other couples may have done never dawned on me until today, somehow that strengthens my view of the oneness of humanity.

This unversality gains  
perspective next to the  
splendor of Niagara Falls.  
Thank you for reminding  
me of a time with no  
mortgage payments, no kids,  
no kids in college, and a  
life that was just beginning.  
That life was the union  
of Bob and Muriel Harrington  
9 South St.  
Le Roy Ny. 14482

716-768-8510