
The bride is the only daughter of retired Filipina American movie star, Marion Douglas Pierce of Seattle, Wash., and her late husband, Alan Lloyd Pierce. She graduated from Kent-Meridian High School, earned her Bachelors and Masters degrees from Western Washington University, and her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. She is an English Professor at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The groom is the eldest son of Cleve Pete Allen and Lorma June Hooks Allen of Brandon. He graduated from Brandon High School, earning his degree in Petroleum Technology Services from Nicholls State University in Thibodaux. He is a well drilling foreman for Shell Oil Corp.

The outdoor ceremony, officiated by Bro. Richard Cox, had more than 200 guests in attendance. The mother of the bride placed a long-stemmed white rose on the seat beside her in memory of the bride's father.

Escorting the bride was her elder brother, Alan Lloyd Pierce, Jr. of Seattle. Attending the bride were her college roommate and friend of 20 years, matron of honor Shannon Hinchcliffe, esq., of Seattle; first cousin and bridesmaid, Karina Van Zandt of Hawaii; and the groom's second cousin, flowergirl Samara Houston of Brandon.

Attending the groom were his brother and best man, Rudy Allen of Brandon; first cousin and groomsman, Paul Zeiger of Alabama; bride's younger brother and groomsman, David Pierce of Seattle; and groom's first cousin once removed, ringbearer Robert Grubbs of Mendenhall.

Assisting the ceremonies were Program Attendant Lauren McKee of Waynesboro and Music Attendant John Asperin of the Philippines.

The bride's mother delivered a beautiful reading of the poem, "Blessing for a Marriage," to commence the ceremony. Soloist Ashley Williams of Wiggins then performed an enchanting rendition of "Forever Love." The mother of the groom sang "The Wedding Prayer" in perfect harmony with her sister, Bobbye Zeiger, of New Orleans.

At the reception, the bride's elder brother performed, "Not a Moment Too Soon," to accompany the couple's first dance, followed by "I Loved Her First," in tribute to their late father. The bride and her attendants then performed "The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A." as a surprise dedication to the groom.

The wedding cake was a four-tier strawberry cake with buttercream filling, showcasing the iced wedding colors of blush pink and chocolate truffle. The groom's cake was a peanut butter chocolate-chip cake designed to replicate an offshore Shell oil rig.

The bride and groom were sent off with sparklers, and rode away in the groom's beautifully restored 1965 white Chevy, affectionately known as "The Ghost." The bride and groom honeymooned in the Tennessee Smoky Mountains, where the groom proposed. The couple has made their home in Petal.