

A Wedding to Remember

The wedding Saturday in the mountains of North Georgia had a little bit of everything: a beautiful bride adorned in a white gown, a handsome groom, a stirring vocal rendition of *The Lord's Prayer*, tender expressions of affection, a giving and receiving of rings, prayers beseeching God's blessings upon the newlyweds and a spirit of love that cloaked the entire audience.

And, oh, yes, there was comedic relief, as the bride's father later described it – a little flower girl, niece of the bride, who charmed the crowd with her antics, and a unity candle that wouldn't light, among other happenings.

It was a marriage ceremony to remember as Life Care's director of public relations, Cari McGlamery, and David Shanks said their vows. It happened in the Susan B. Harris Chapel on the campus of Young Harris College in Young Harris, Georgia. A luncheon and reception followed at Brasstown Valley Resort, which has been the site of several retreats conducted by Life Care.

The event was another milestone in my connection with this family. Nearly two years ago, Cari submitted a resume expressing interest in the public relations position with Life Care. As I conducted the interview, I became impressed with her personality, her qualifications for the job and her professional attitude. As we concluded our time together, I said, "Cari, you have a somewhat unusual name; at least, in the way it is spelled. But I suppose that you would find *Beecher* to be a rather strange name, too."

"Not at all," she grinned. "My father's middle name is Beecher and my grandfather's name was Beecher. So I am quite accustomed to that name, thank you." Well, obviously, she got the job, and she has performed her responsibilities exceedingly well.

When she reported for work, she pointed out to me that our history goes back further than I realized. She brought me a clipping out of *The Cleveland Daily Banner* from years ago that featured a photograph of a one-year-old girl sitting on a table watching her father, Ben McGlamery, fold newspapers for delivery in a job that helped pay his way through school at Lee University. The story was one I had written about his selection as the newspaper's Carrier of the Year. Isn't it interesting how circumstances can knit our lives together?

In a day when marriage between a man and a woman is under assault in our nation, it was a joy to celebrate the God-ordained union of two radiant young people. We wish only the best for Cari and David.

--Beecher Hunter

To view a picture from the wedding, please visit:

<http://www.villagesquare.com/PR/Classified%20Graphics/Cari%20McGlamery%20Shanks%20wedding.jpg>