





natural BEAUTY

Katherine Ann Hall *O* Paul Galon Allison

by amanda wells | photography by vue photography

MARRY ME

When Paul Allison, a Minnesota native, moved to Vicksburg, Katherine Hall's hometown, to work at the United States Army Corps of Engineers, he had no idea he would meet his dream come true. After a fun courtship, Paul invited Katherine to Laurel Street Park in Jackson's historic Belhaven neighborhood where she was met by Dylan, her Bichon Frisé and Poodle mix, who had an engagement ring dangling from his collar. The playfulness of the proposal was a sign of things to come when it came to planning their wedding. In order to ensure a fun and laid-back vibe, they chose Choctawhatchee Bay in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, for their May nuptials. "I grew up vacationing in Destin, so the Florida panhandle was the perfect fit," says Katherine.

Three hand-blown glass vases were used for a sand unity ceremony, where the two blended sand to represent forever being intertwined to the tune of "It's a Wonderful World," played by guitarist Sam Weigle and violinist Isabeau Weaver. "I searched high and low for the perfect vases," says Katherine.

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THE SETTING

A mix of roses and hydrangeas were displayed in mason jars hung as pew markers, creating a fresh-from-the-garden look that was effortlessly elegant. A grassy path strewn with white petals led to the sandy altar, where Katherine and Paul met under a large wooden cross draped with flowers and greenery, adding to the simple, graceful scene. The couple recited traditional vows as well as vows based on a 12th-century poem by Frau Ava that says in part, "In your eyes, I have found my home. In your heart, I have found love. In your soul, I have found my mate."



FLORABUNDA

Katherine clutched a bouquet of white peonies, roses, orchids, calla lilies, and ranunculuses hand-tied with ivory silk dupioni ribbon. Bridesmaids carried green hydrangeas and white roses.



OCEAN BLUE ATTIRE

Katherine and Paul's entire wedding party were barefoot during the ceremony. "We love to be outdoors and rarely wear shoes when we are," says Katherine. The bridesmaids were stunning in a mix of simple styles of sapphire blue silk chiffon dresses from J. Crew.





GOING GREEN

The men were outfitted in khaki linen suits with green and blue ties and wore calla lily boutonnieres, except for Paul's, which was a white ranunculus.

THE SETTING

The flower girl, Paul's niece Allison, was accompanied by Katherine's bow-tied Bichon Frise and poodle mix, Dylan, who served as the ring bearer. Dylan's involvement was quite appropriate given Paul's unique proposal.

THE GOWN

The bride wore an ivory taffeta one-shoulder gown with a cathedral-length silk illusion veil and her mother's pearl and diamond earrings.





DOCK OF THE BAY

Following the ceremony, Katherine and Paul's guests were invited to celebrate with the couple at Bentley's on the Bay. Simple whitewashed tables were brought in and outfitted with burlap table runners.

HIS CAKE

Paul's cake, by Fatty Patty's Cakes in Panama City, was shaped like a draft Guinness beer, his favorite drink. The chocolate cake was infused with Guinness, filled with whiskey chocolate ganache, and topped with Bailey's Irish Cream frosting.



HER CAKE

A tiny barefoot bride and groom, along with sugar paste magnolias, casually graced the three-tiered vanilla cake with coconut and strawberry filling by Fatty Patty's Cakes. It was another reminder of the casual elegance.

THE DECOR

One of Katherine's favorite details was dancing under the cafe lights. A collection of assorted jars were filled with casual arrangements. "Our wedding was a perfect night on the water that reflected our personal, relaxed style and always-have-fun attitudes," shares Katherine.



Let's celebrate

SWEETS TO THE SWEET

A break from tradition, the groom's cake was served at the rehearsal dinner. At the wedding, guests enjoyed a dessert bar of assorted French macaroons and heart-shaped blueberry and apple pies on sticks.



OH, HONEY!

The couple shared their first dance to the tune of Van Morrison's "Tupelo Honey"—the song to which they had shared their first kiss—performed by After8, a band from Baton Rouge. Guests were treated to jars of Tupelo honey as favors.

EVER AFTER

After the festive reception, Katherine and Paul rode away in a 1957 Packard convertible to their happily ever after. M