

## THE SECRET GARDEN

Margaret Abernathy & Joshua Brost

Married and Celebrated: STOCKDALE COUNTRY CLUB Date: APRIL 21, 2018



**BALLOONS:** Paradise Balloon Designs **BRIDAL ACCESSORIES:** Jimmy Choo (Shoes), Chanel (Handbag) **BRIDAL GOWN:** Oscar de la Renta **BRIDESMAID'S GIFTS:** Tiffany & Co **DESSERTS:** Ghiladolci Bakery (Cake), Mallow Mallow (S'mores Cart) **FLORIST:** Birchwood Floral Design **HAIR:** Olivia Daniels **INVITATIONS/SIGNAGE:** Matinae Design Studio, Nanette Art & Design (Photo Wall and Mirror Lettering) **LIGHTING:** Freestyle Event Services **MAKEUP:** Krystal McGee **MUSIC:** Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra (Ceremony); Lucky Devils Band (Reception) **PHOTOGRAPHER:** Mariel Hannah **RENTALS:** Walker Lewis Rents (Tent and Tabletop), Revelry Event Design (Chairs and Specialty Rentals), Casa De Perrin (Tabletop), Yummi Candles (Taper Candles) **RING BOX:** The Mrs. Box **VENUE:** Stockdale Country Club **VIDEOGRAPHY:** Evermoore Film **WEDDING PLANNER:** Detailed Touch Events



**CITY OF DELIGHTS** Despite working 40 feet from each other at SpaceX, Margaret and Josh had limited interactions during their work days. A week after Margaret left the company, she went to France with friends and found herself lost in Paris while trying to find their agreed-upon lunch spot. She stepped inside a hotel to ask for directions when she heard the familiar voice of her ex-boss. Turns out the SpaceX team was in town for meetings and he asked her to swing by that night's reception. She decided to stop in for a quick hello and the person she recognized was Josh. The twosome began their first real conversation and after that fateful reunion they kept in touch, even after her job took her to Iowa and Washington, D.C. Infrequent hangs turned into regular visits as they grew closer and eventually Josh relocated. A year later, Josh proposed while on a trip to Hawaii.

**SECRET SERVICE** The bride had long dreamt of a black-tie big day with a secret garden theme, so the planner designed a verdant gala where even the bride's Oscar de la Renta dress and the cake were adorned with delicate petals. The first hint of the theme was contained on the stationary suite which featured falling leaves and a wax stamp of an antique key. The aisle was lined with wild arrangements of calla lilies and roses and the ceremony arch was wrapped in pastel blooms and greenery. The lush look continued on the moss-covered escort card display and inside the reception tent where simple airy boughs spread across the ceiling, greenery tied the drapes and flowers in a variety of clear glass vessels filled the long dining tables alongside taper candles and frilly dishware.

**DAD GENES** Sadly, Margaret unexpectedly lost her father, a longtime Republican political consultant. It was important to her to weave the DNA of their bond and his personality into the event. She carried his photo and his most cherished baseball card as she walked down the aisle. Congressman Kevin McCarthy, a family friend who officiated the wedding, said she chose to march solo as she knew she wasn't really alone as her dad was there in spirit. The calla lilies, which were also in the bridesmaid bouquets, were a nod to her and her father's favorite book, *A Wrinkle In Time*. The night ended with a S'mores cart as the father-daughter duo loved roasting marshmallows by the fire while she was growing up.

**SPECIAL DELIVERY** As a surprise to her Star Wars-loving fiancée, Margaret arranged for the rings to be delivered from a galaxy far, far away by a Chewbacca impersonator.

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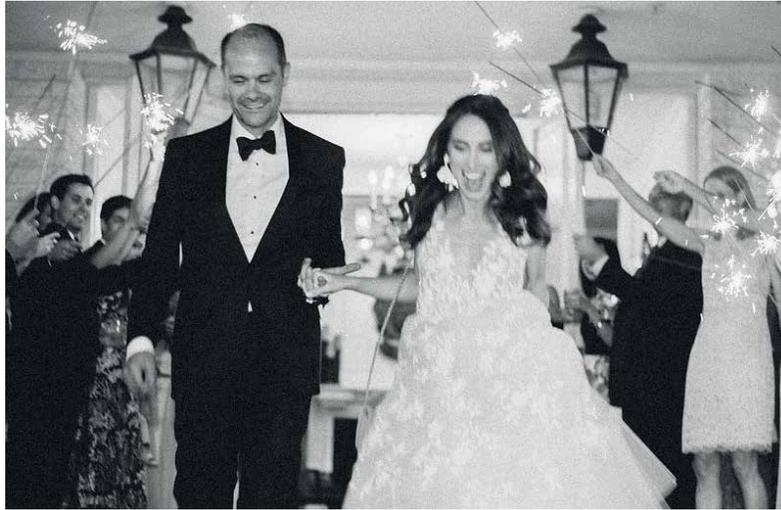


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Secret Garden continued



**SIGN OF THE GOOD TIMES** A mileage marker made by the groom's father showed the many stops along their journey including where they were born, where they attended college and where they met and resided as a couple. The last sign on the post was for "happily ever after" and it appropriately pointed in both directions as their love was all around.

**SWEET ON YOU** On top of the S'mores, the dessert table overflowed with sugary options including cupcakes, a tall three-tiered cake and pink macarons.



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