

# LOVE, LOVE, LOVE

Article by Christina DiBartolo

## SPIRITUAL WEDDING CEREMONY



Photo courtesy of Ila Rogers Photography

### IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE

Your wedding day is about celebrating your **LOVE** for each other and the sacred union of joining your lives together

“What greater joy is there than for two human souls that to feel they are joined together as one.”

“**LOVE** is the oneness two people feel for one another and together meet the challenges of life as two hearts, two minds, two spirits, living, learning, and loving as **ONE**.”

“**UNCONDITIONAL LOVE** is love given freely, and has no beginning and no end. Love freely given has no giver and no receiver, for each is the giver and each is the receiver. True unconditional love is eternal and infinite.”

“The intimacies and surprises of **LOVE** are a form of reverence for life.”

“**LOVE** is the original home of the Soul”

Those are just a few of my favorite passages from wedding ceremonies speaking of **LOVE**.

Be mindful of what is most important in planning your wedding day, your **LOVE** for each other. There are many ways to share your day with loved ones without losing sight of what is most important.

## CREATING YOUR SPECIAL DAY

You can create your perfect magical dream day, that reflects who you are and feeds your soul, and, it can still remain **YOUR** day, while sharing it with those that you love.

Be creative, let your imagination run wild, and create something uniquely yours. Some alternatives from the traditional wedding with all the trimmings are a destination wedding, a theme wedding, a wedding on horseback, and a Native American Wedding Ceremony, and there is always the incredibly romantic elopement.

## WRITING YOUR OWN CEREMONY

It is most important that the words that you choose for your ceremony represent what you want to say to each other. I always encourage the bride and groom to take an active part in creating their own ceremony and incorporate whatever they choose to make it their own.

Write your own vows and speak to each other from your hearts. Incorporate your favorite reading or poem read by a family member or friend. If there are children involved, somehow include them into the ceremony to welcome them into your new family.

## THE DESTINATION WEDDING

The destination wedding is romantic and exciting and an adventure that you and your fiancé' won't ever forget. It can also double as a family reunion/vacation and get everyone “outside the box” so to speak, coming together to celebrate your union on “neutral territory”

Jackson Hole and the Grand Tetons have much to offer to create that perfect special day. The majestic mountains with pristine lakes and rivers make a magnificent background to create a sacred space for your ceremony.

Since Jackson Hole is a Destination Resort, we have a wide variety of services to cater and pamper you and your guests.

## THE ELOPEMENT

My favorite weddings to perform are elopements. **WHY?** It is just the two of you, and there is so much love, **PURE LOVE**, nothing else.

A perfect example of the perfect elopement was one stormy day last April. The bride and groom hired a photographer, a videographer, and a limo for their special day. I felt blessed to have been the one chosen to perform their ceremony, and witness the love between these two.

During the ceremony, their love, energy, and enthusiasm was contagious, and their wasn't a dry eye in the house. After the ceremony, they were whisked away in their limo, and their photographer and videographer got some great shots of them in and around Jackson, and in Grand Teton National Park.

It was truly **THEIR DAY**. They shared it with loved ones through the video and photos, at their reception celebration when they returned home.

## CEREMONY ON HORSEBACK

Whether you're an accomplished horseman or horsewoman, or just adore these magical creatures, a wedding on horseback, in the middle of the wilderness, is just that, **MAGICAL**.

Whether it's just the bride and groom or a larger group, your perfect wedding ceremony on horseback can be created to suit your needs.



Photo courtesy of Rick Armstrong  
Grand Productions Jackson Hole, Wyoming

## NATIVE AMERICAN CEREMONY



Native American Wedding Ceremony  
Rockin Heart Ranch  
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Photo courtesy of Leine Spikkel  
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Bride's Ceremonial Dress courtesy of  
Robin's Nest Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Grooms Jacket courtesy of  
Overland Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Native American Ceremonialist and Advisor  
Grandfather Bearclaw, David Abrams  
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

## TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN WEDDING CEREMONY

If you are looking for something really unique and different, and want to experience the beauty of the Native American traditions, then consider a traditional Native American wedding ceremony.

We've combined Lakota, Shoshone, Apache, and Cherokee ceremonial traditions to create this beautiful ceremony. Included within the ceremony are offerings between the bride and groom and the history behind the traditions.

Traditional Native American dress is available for the bride and groom to wear, should they choose. The bride and groom, and a limited number of guests may also participate in a purification lodge (sweat lodge) ceremony the day before the wedding ceremony.

## **FAMILY REUNIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND RETREATS**

Planning a family reunion or special event to accommodate a group, large or small, can be challenging. Organizing activities that will appeal to all involved takes patience, imagination, and creativity.

Whether it is a family reunion, gathering of friends to celebrate a special event, or a group of business associates on retreat, the same principles for planning a wedding also apply to planning a special event for a group.

Set the intention for the gathering and create an event that supports that intention.

The Tetons have a special energy that draws almost four million guests here each year to be inspired by their majesty and beauty. Jackson Hole is a world class destination resort and has so many activities and services to choose from.

No matter what activities you plan for your group, allow some quiet time to enjoy this glorious place and to just BE.

## **REMEMBER**

Always remember, not just on your wedding day, but every day: Start your day with LOVE, Fill your day with LOVE, and End you day with LOVE, because at the end of the day, LOVE is the only thing that matters.



**Christina DiBartolo** is Executive Director of **Rockin Heart Ranch**. Their services include: Creating and Officiating Custom Designed Spiritual Wedding Ceremonies; Weddings on Horseback, Native American, Re-Affirmation, and Commitment Ceremonies. She can be reached toll free at 877-855-LOVE (5683), or email her at [christina@rockinheartranch.net](mailto:christina@rockinheartranch.net). Visit the Ranch website at [rockinheartranch.net](http://rockinheartranch.net).