

# My wedding, my story ...

Recently wed Justine Lehringer shares her favorite memories of the ceremony and reception

Last fall, Justine Darice Lord married Christian Michael Lehinger at Retreat DFW in Cedar Hill. Recently, *Arlington Today* visited with Justine and asked her to share some of her favorite memories prior to, during and after the ceremony.

**Arlington Today:** Why did you choose Retreat DFW as the venue for your wedding?

**Justine Lehringer:** Wanted to have an intimate setting with close friends and family and enjoy each other's company for the weekend. And still have a romantic place for the wedding.

**AT:** How long have you and Christian known each other, and when did you become engaged? Please share some memories of that moment, too.

**JL:** We ran in the same circle of friends for years but never actually met each other. Finally, we did meet at a business retreat in Breckenridge in August of 2018.

We were engaged in April of 2019. We have a park in our neighborhood where we spend a lot of time. We took a romantic afternoon walk, and when we got to the park Christian got down on one knee and proposed.

**AT:** Was there a theme for your wedding? If so, how did it play out?

**JL:** Simple. Everything was simple, clean and pretty. And fun! We had a 150-foot slide, zip lining, a rock wall and a treehouse.

**AT:** How many people attended?

**JL:** About 65.

**AT:** What are your and your husband's favorite memories of the event?

**JL:** Christian's son David flew in from Okinawa with his wife Payten. David is an active duty Marine, and Payten is active duty in the Air Force. Christian's daughters, Elizabeth, Sarah and Joelle, came in from College Station, Denton and Spokane. It was very special to have them there all together.

During the ceremony we performed a traditional hand fasting

to honor our Celtic roots. Christian's dad performed the hand fasting portion of the ceremony.

The speeches were very special for both of us. My best friend, Mary Day, gave a very special speech about her wonderful memories of me, and how special I was in her life and family. Christian's son gave a great speech about family and finding love.

In general we really enjoyed seeing people that we loved enjoying each other's company and having a good time.

**AT:** Who was involved in the planning and implementation of the wedding, and what did they do?

**JL:** Michelle Parker and Mary Day were instrumental in planning and preparing the wedding. The photographer was Bryan Grayson. Our good friend, Joey Bozik, performed the ceremony.

**AT:** Where did the wedding reception take place and what were some of the highlights of that?

**JL:** Both the ceremony and reception took place at Retreat DFW in Cedar Hill. The reception was outside and included plenty of food and alcohol, along with rock climbing, swimming, a water slide and, to top it all off, a zip line.

**AT:** Where did you go on your honeymoon, and what about that stood out the most to you?

**JL:** We traveled to Scotland. We got to tour many castles, including Sterling castle. We traveled to Loch Ness and the highlands by car. We are pretty sure we wandered onto the set of *Outlander* way up in the highlands and were quickly ushered away. We had wonderful hotel stays and amazing food and conversation.

**AT:** How has life changed for the two of you now that you've been married almost half a year?

**JL:** It sounds cliché, but things keep getting better. We love spending time together. We enjoy doing the little things to make sure the other feels loved and special. We both look forward to spending the rest of our lives by each other's side. **A**



Photos courtesy of Justine Lehinger



Here are some of the photographic highlights from the wedding – and the honeymoon – of Christian and Justine Lehinger. The couple was married last October at Retreat DFW in Cedar Hill, and Christian and Justine honeymooned in Scotland.