

# Jenna & Tim

## Simple and Memorable

October 1, 2016

Jenna and Tim met at Fort Henry in the summer of 2005, where they were both working as military interpreters and tour guides. Jenna, an Ottawa native, was going to school in Kingston and met Tim, who was born and raised there. When Jenna got a full-time position in Ottawa in 2008, they dated long distance and a year later, Tim moved to Ottawa and they bought a home.

Tim proposed in the summer of 2014. The couple, in Kingston to see family and friends, went to Fort Henry under the pretense that they were going to visit Tim's father, who works there. On the hill where they first met, overlooking Kingston, Tim popped the question.

When it came time to decide on a venue, "we wanted something more memorable than a traditional venue," said Jenna. "We wanted the venue to be part of the experience." As avid museum-goers, the Museum of Nature was the perfect choice for the couple. The reception was held in the fossil gallery, enabling the guests to enjoy the museum as part of the wedding experience.

Jenna found her wedding dress at a pop-up sale at the EY Centre. It was a year before the wedding, but she went with her sister and her friend to check it out and after a couple of hours of trying on dresses, her friend spotted a dress that had been put back on the rack in Jenna's size. "I tried it on and fell in love with it," remembers Jenna. "I sent Tim a text saying, I think I'm coming home with a dress today." The dress featured a tight bodice with beads and sequins and a ruffled fuller skirt that ended in a long train.

The couple chose to take their wedding photographs before the ceremony in a park. While the couple's English bulldog Archer — "the center of our life," says Jessie — didn't attend the wedding, he did star in the wedding pictures. The couple appreciated that they got the opportunity to attend their reception since they had done their photos beforehand. "Tim and I really got to relax and enjoy time with our guests in the fossil gallery. It was really fun to be able to experience that with our friends and family and really start the celebration together," said Jenna.

As part of their ceremony, they sealed the "wedding emergency kit" containing a bottle of wine and letters to each other in a wooden box. They'll open it up together on their tenth anniversary, unless a situation comes up before then when they need to be reminded of their commitment to each other.



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The theme of the wedding was simplicity. “We are both laid-back, so I didn’t want anything too grand or sparkly.” The wedding colours were purple and silver. The flowers were a range of purple and white flowers and the name card holders were little plastic dinosaurs spray-painted silver.

Instead of a big, tiered wedding cake, the couple opted for something more understated. “We wanted something simple and delicious. That was the more important thing.” Set on a tiered plate, it was a chocolate cake with white buttercream frosting, decorated with fresh flowers that matched the colours of the wedding.

The cutting of the wedding cake featured a family tradition of Jenna’s. Her grandfather was in the military and since her parents’ wedding, it has been customary for the marrying couple to cut the wedding cake using his dress uniform military sword. Jenna also carried her great grandmother’s handkerchief down the aisle, just as her grandmother, mother and sister did on their wedding days. W

