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# merideth & cory

JULY 16, BIRMINGHAM

photography by Ray Anthony

"Go with the flow" is the mantra Merideth Foster, who's 28 and works in television, kept repeating to herself when she married Olaf (Cory) Kroneman, a 27-year-old trader. On the day they were meant to say "I do," rain forced the two lovebirds to alter their plans for an alfresco event and move the entire party indoors. Fortunately, Merideth and Cory, who met at a party in college, had a wedding planner who came through to save the day.

"Everything we had planned for our outdoor reception was revamped for an indoor, ballroom setting at the Townsend Hotel. We moved everything—tables, chairs, food, liquor, flowers, linens—everything," says Merideth. Carolyn Hefner, their wedding planner, helped mobilize the relocation effort and made sure everything worked out beautifully.

Even with this unexpected shift in location, Merideth and Cory's wedding day was elegant and meaningful. The couple married at the majestic Christ Church Cranbrook, under its high ceilings and stained-glass windows. The monogrammed ceremony program featured a special remembrance in honor of the bride's late father. Merideth wore a two-piece Monique Lhuillier ensemble »

**Style tip:** Pick a signature flower! The lush roses seen in the bouquets and centerpieces, and on the chair backs and cake, added to the magic of Merideth and Cory's wedding day.

that included a strapless silk white lace bustier, a duchesse satin A-line skirt, and a thick ivory satin sash punctuated with a diamond and pearl brooch. Her six bridesmaids lit up the aisle wearing blush pink Vera Wang dresses in varying styles, from strapless to cap sleeves. As they walked down the aisle, both Merideth and her maids carried bouquets of roses, ranunculus, and hypericum berries. The groom and groomsmen, meanwhile, were dashing in dark suits with striped Burberry ties.

You'd never know from the photographs of their wedding day that any part of the planning went in an unexpected direction. "Our favorite photo is one that captured Cory and me during our first dance. He is dipping me and smiling—it's gorgeous," says Merideth. "I relive the moment every time I look at it." The rose and green-theme reception decorations included glowing hurricane lanterns, floating votives, and julep cups filled with tiny flower arrangements. The monogrammed five-tier cake continued the airy, summery theme with fresh flowers, hypericum berries, and pearlized Swiss dots. "It was so delish that we actually ran out of cake!" says the bride.

The 10-piece reception band helped banish all thoughts of rain and kept guests dancing late into the night. "They had dancers that actually went out on the dance floor and got people moving," Merideth laughs. "My father-in-law danced on stage, as well as my mother-in-law—what a sight!" So, despite some pretty major last-minute adjustments, everything worked out happily—a comforting tale for any bride with planning jitters. Merideth herself sums it up best: "Be happy and enjoy your engagement and your wedding, because it all goes by so quickly!" —*S.A.* »