



## Casually Elegant Weddings

individualized service for quality results in Las Vegas

### CEREMONIES WITHIN YOUR CEREMONY

#### **Unity Candle**

Candles will always be popular and, especially because of one idea we'll discuss with you, we think a Unity Candle is worth considering as you plan your wedding. Candles may not work well in outdoor venues but, even then, we can suggest ways of including them.

The Unity Candle symbolizes lives being united in marriage. It is a large candle lit by the Bride and Groom, sometimes by the bridal couple along with their children, indicating that all are now an inseparable part of one another. It also says to in-laws and friends that they, too, have been brought into this joyous whole.

Sometimes the smaller tapers used to light the larger Unity Candle are blown out afterwards, sometimes they remain lit because individuality remains even within unity.

Your officiant will describe to your guests the meaning of this ceremony and sometimes pronounce a blessing upon the newly formed family. The Bride and Groom typically are not expected to say anything (though they may whisper sentiments to one another). Sometimes mothers or other loved ones are given an opportunity to speak. Sometimes a soloist will sing, or music will be played, or a reading will take place. Sometimes candle sponsors (often Godparents) will stand with the bridal couple. Sometimes spiritual or religious connotations are involved. We will tailor the Unity Candle ceremony to fit what you want to remember.

Many treasured thoughts may be symbolized in the lighting of the individual tapers and the Unity Candle. Your choices will determine who lights these candles and how this may be used to honor loved ones or give pledges to your children. One variation involves every guest being given a candle, passing the flame to the wedding couple or each guest holding a lit candle as the Bride and Groom complete the ceremony.

Because the Unity Candle originated in churches, local religious Book Stores sell simple and elaborate supplies. You may be able to purchase a Unity Candle personalized with your names and the date of your wedding. You may find additional options on the Internet. If you want to involve your guests, you might consider battery operated candles for them to use and then take home as mementoes.

We usually include the Unity Candle ceremony, when it is requested, after the Vows and before the Pronouncement of Marriage.