



## Death Bed Wedding Ceremony

Thank you all for being here with \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ today. It is with great joy that we are here not just to celebrate the love between \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, but the love each one of you has contributed while they have been on their journey. Marriage is more than just two people committing to themselves. It is more than a wedding ring. Marriage is the defining and deep rooted sense of finding that one person who is not only your best friend, but the passionate partner and caring confidante that you can share and cherish all life has to throw at you. When two people find that thread, it creates a beautiful tapestry in which each person who adds to it, only makes it more beautiful, more vibrant and more personal. As parents we love our children unconditionally, as lovers we love with all consuming flame. As spouses, we take our flames and combine the unconditional to create something that neither dims nor extinguishes by time.

One of my favorite poems is by Maya Angelou- In and Out of Time.

The sun has come.

The mist has gone.

We see in the distance...

our long way home.

I was always yours to have.

You were always mine.

We have loved each other in and out of time.

When the first stone looked up at the blazing sun  
and the first tree struggled up from the forest floor

I had always loved you more.

You freed your braids...

gave your hair to the breeze.

It hummed like a hive of honey bees.

I reached in the mass for the sweet honey comb there....

Mmmm...God how I love your hair.

You saw me bludgeoned by circumstance.

Lost, injured, hurt by chance.

I screamed to the heavens....loudly screamed....

Trying to change our nightmares to dreams...

The sun has come.

The mist has gone.

We see in the distance our long way home.

I was always yours to have.

You were always mine.

We have loved each other in and out

in and out

in and out

of time.

No matter what may come, no matter where we end up, these two will love one another in and out of time.

\_\_\_\_\_, today you have come to promise to \_\_\_\_\_ that you will walk beside him/her, share with him/her all of the stormy weather but revel in the joy of the sun and always be the best friend and lover you have always been. Is it your wish to now be joined to \_\_\_\_\_?

\_\_\_\_\_, today you have come to promise to \_\_\_\_\_ that you will walk beside him/her, share with him/her all of the weather but revel in the joy of the sun and always be the best friend and lover you have always been. Is your wish to now to be joined to \_\_\_\_\_?

Who has the rings?

These rings may be a symbol of marriage but they are so much more than that. They are symbol of trust, of an absolute unending love and a promise that ties the two of you together. When you see these rings, you are taken back to this day, this moment when there was nothing more important than the two of you and your family.

\_\_\_\_\_, in placing the ring on the left of hand of \_\_\_\_\_'s finger, please repeat after me:

I give you this ring, as a reminder of the love we share, and my unending promise to live life with you to its fullest. No matter what comes, my love for you is with you always.

\_\_\_\_\_, in placing the ring on the left hand of \_\_\_\_\_'s finger, please repeat after me:

I give you this ring, as a reminder of the love we share, and my unending promise to live with you to its fullest. No matter what comes, my love for you is with you always.

The two of you have received one of the greatest blessings that can be offered and given. The blessing of a child and the gift of being parents. Having that circle will always unite you, always be with you and will always bring you a sense of peace and joy..

Today, you form a tighter circle, one in which no matter what may come, you can always look at what you have created together and know that each of you is strong within this little person who will carry both of your spirits with (him/her) always. Will the three of you join hands?

Creator, I ask that you place your love and peace around this family you have designed. There are never true endings without a strong beginning. They have had a strong beginning, they have had a strong journey and now we ask that wherever you take them on this journey, You fill them with the love that has carried them to this day. You have given us so many blessings and we are truly grateful for everyone in this room and for those who have walked with us thus far. Please keep a guiding hand on all of us and when it is time for \_\_\_\_\_ to go home, be it with you or with her/his family, if she/he feels she/he can no longer find strength, place her/his in your arms and carry her/his with the love we all have for this family. Let them know that love never creates mistakes or finds fault, it gives beautiful gifts and always lives on. Thank you for today and for this family. Amen.

Without further ado, I can now happily say the two of you are now married and a family.

\_\_\_\_\_, please celebrate with each other by the giving of a kiss.