



# Our Wedding Day

Owen & Shauna 







# EVERGLADES

## HOTEL



### **The Couple**

We met on St. Patrick's Day 2013. Owen was working in the Grand Central bar that night and when leaving at the end of the night, my friend David pointed Owen out. I approached Owen and asked for his phone number. We went on our first date the next weekend and have been together since.

### **The Proposal**

A few weeks before my sister's wedding in 2018 Owen rang me to say he had won a raffle in work for an overnight stay with all the trimmings at Lough Erne Resort in Fermanagh. I was delighted and couldn't believe he had won a prize like that for just £10 so was telling anyone who would listen. The week after my sister got married we went to Lough Erne resort. After having a lovely afternoon in the spa, we got ready for dinner. Just before we went to the restaurant Owen asked me to come outside where he proposed down on one knee.

### **The Day**

I have loved the Everglades Hotel for many years, so much so that even before we were engaged I was telling friends that I was having my wedding at the Everglades. I just had to convince Owen so after visiting a few other hotels we knew the Everglades was the venue for us. The 'grand ballroom' was so bright and modern, it had the look we were hoping for our wedding day. We had been to the Everglades on many occasions for afternoon tea, and lunch that we knew the food and service was fabulous. We met with Mairead who was just so friendly and helpful throughout the whole process.

Our final meeting the week of the wedding was with James (the hotel manager) again he was so friendly and helpful. It was evident that Mairead and James just wanted to provide us with the day of our dreams. All of the staff on the day were amazing and nothing was too much bother. James ensured the day ran so smooth and it was a great comfort knowing that the staff had everything in hand.

### **Theme:**

There was no specific theme however, we wanted our day to be relaxed and minimal, we didn't want too much fuss.



### **Wedding Dress:**

Similar to my idea of venue I had a particular wedding dress designer in mind for a number of years, Eliza Jane Howell. I searched which bridal boutiques stocked the designer in Northern Ireland. I followed the designer on Instagram which led to me finding my dream dress. 4 weeks after having our second son and during a 4am feed I was scrolling through Instagram when I saw 'the dress'. I became overwhelmed by emotion and had to see it in person and try it on. I went to Dorothy at White Gold Bridal in Broughshane, Ballymena. Dorothy was amazing and after trying on a number of dresses "just to make sure" I tried on the dress I had seen on Instagram. I knew immediately this was 'my dress'. It was called the Vanderbilt dress from the Studio 54 collection.

### **The Bridesmaids:**

ASOS - the deep green colour was the colour I had picked from the beginning of our plans, I was wearing the same colour the night we got engaged.

### **Groomswear:**

The suits were from City Man, Derry.

We decided on the navy Benetton suit as we felt it was classic and timeless. Liam and the guys at City Man were so helpful in guiding us to find the perfect suits.

### **Wedding Flowers:**

My favourite flower is Gerbera however, they did not match my style of dress. We decided along with our florist John Paul to go for roses, hydrangeas and orchids with loads of greenery.

### **Stationary:**

Our stationary (invitations and order of service) was from Sienna Mai Invitations which I found on Etsy. Again we wanted something minimal. We chose a white concertina fold-out with green writing.

### **Photos/Video:**

Natalie was recommended by a number of people and when we looked at her previous work we knew she was the photographer for us. Her photographs were so relaxed and looked effortless.

### **What made you choose your videographer?**

Eugene at Emerald video actually did my sister's wedding in 2018 and again he was so relaxed, you wouldn't have known he was around.





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### **Food & Drink**

**Starter:** Chicken & Mushroom Vol au vent

**Soup:** Vegetable soup

**Main:** Short rib of beef or turkey & ham

**Dessert:** Fresh fruit Pavlova & raspberry and white chocolate cheesecake.

We knew the food would be delicious as we had been to the Everglades on a number of occasions for Sunday carvery. We picked foods that we loved and knew everyone else would too.

### **Wedding Cake:**

Our cake was done by Michelle at the Village cake room and the flavours were carrot cake, lemon cake and salted caramel.

### **Any funny stories from the day?**

We can laugh about it now but at the end of the night I walked into a pillar by the bar which resulted in a massive bump on the forehead. Luckily it wasn't at the start of the day.

### **Favourite Moment Groom:**

Seeing Shauna walk down the aisle and getting married during the ceremony.

### **Favourite Moment Bride:**

The wedding ceremony and also having all our family and friends together to celebrate with us as we were unsure for a long time if that would have been a possibility with the pandemic.

