



# 150 Stories for 150 Years

## Nights at the Manhattan Lounge, Champs and the Sig Barn Led Us Down a Path of Forever Friendship

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In the Fall of 1996, I arrived on WC's campus as a scared freshman. A young lady by the name of Karie Shelton (Class of 1999) greeted me and introduced herself as my RA. Within a week Karie and I were thick as thieves. We spent night after night doing the typical dorm activities together and she even convinced me to stay on campus for my first weekend to attend the WEBN Fireworks in Cincinnati. That was the start of what would become an epic friendship. Following that weekend, we were inseparable and eventually ended up as roommates in Marble Hall for a year before she graduated. Nineteen years later, Karie became an even bigger part of my life in a very unexpected way. On June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples could legally be married. My fiancée, Rebecca, and I were overcome with joy and began to finalize our marriage plans...which I knew had to include Karie. After the briefest of conversations, Karie set out to be ordained so that she could be the one to officiate our wedding, cementing her place in our story forever. Karie officiated our wedding at The Lodge at Geneva On-the-Lake on August 8, 2015. Nights at the Manhattan Lounge, Champs, and the Sig Barn led us down a path of forever friendship. Days in the computer lab, Pyle Center and Marble Hall created a friendship that would become deeper than we could have known as kids. Three years of craziness that resulted in perfection on my most special day. Thanks WC.

