

# *“Returning Home for Island Wedding”*



She's a local girl who loves Strawberry Icee floats from Dave's Ice Cream and proclaims Tanioka's poke is the best on the Island. A graduate of Waipahu High School, Wendy Tangonan (now Mrs. Wendy Chu) met the love of her life while attending the University of San Francisco in 2003. He grew up in Pleasant Hill, a suburb of San Francisco, and loves fast cars and designer watches. Like a fairy-tale, Derek swept Wendy off her feet. Wendy instantly fell in love with the San Francisco native whose charm, brilliance, and charisma enchanted her heart. Derek says it was love at first sight and once he got to know Wendy, her kindness and spontaneity made him know she was the one.



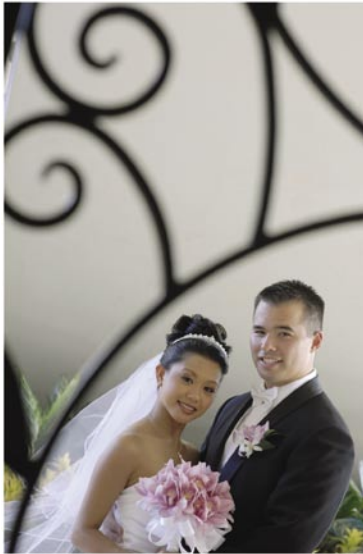
In May 2005, the couple came to Hawaii to visit with Wendy's family and friends. The trip marked their 2nd-year of dating and Derek was planning something special. The night before their 2nd anniversary, Derek took Wendy to Ko'olina Beach, the beautiful shoreline of the Ihilani Resort. Wendy recalls, "It was a gorgeous night... I remember how the water sparkled like diamonds in the moonlight and how the stars illuminated the sky... the night was full of romance!" The scene could not have been more perfect as Derek popped the question: "It's been a wonderful 2-years, and I hope we can share another 2-years... and the rest of our lives together... would you do me the honor of being my wife?"



And so on a starry Hawaiian night the couple became engaged!

Without a doubt, Wendy knew her wedding would be in Hawaii. Her family, her friends, and every happy memory she's had since childhood was in Hawaii and so she wanted to make her wedding memories here too. Since the two were engaged on the beautiful beaches of Oahu's West side, the couple chose Ihilnai Resort for their momentous event. Wendy planned the entire wedding from their home in San Francisco. She had even personally handcrafted every invitation, program, and table favor.

In September 2006, the couple returned to the Islands for their big day. The wedding was an elegant atmosphere of light purple and plum colors set against a beautiful tropical backdrop of the Ihilani grounds. Derek's family and friends flew to Oahu for the joyous occasion. The day couldn't have been better, filled with laughs, cries, and hugs.



The newly weds now reside in the suburbs of San Francisco and Wendy works with Derek in his thriving insurance business. When asked what their future plans are, the two reply with the same answer: "... to travel... have lots of children... and buy a vacation home in Hawaii to remain close with our family there."



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