




Family and friends joined the couple to celebrate their special day. The ceremony was held on the third floor, while the first floor was set up for dining, with the home's formal dining room set aside for dancing. Dinner was served to 120 guests. "My favorite features of the house are the hardwood floors and the grand staircase," Alexis said. "My favorite room in the house is the dining room on the first floor, because that is where my husband and I had our private first dance."

A surprise moment and a planned one during the reception are favorite memories. "My favorite part of the day, aside from exchanging vows with my husband, was during the reception when Julius performed an impromptu rendition of Lenny Williams' "Cause I Love You". It was so funny watching him sing in front of all our guests, as this was out of character for him. The couple and their family and friends were deeply moved by Julius' younger brother's toast, which drew emotions and a few tears from the guests."

It was during the two years when Alexis lived in Rockford that the couple met in high school through a mutual friend. Each went on to different colleges—he to Virginia State University, and she to Lake Forest College. They are now living in Rockford. Julius, who grew up there, works at UTC Aerospace Systems. Alexis dreams of becoming a pediatric neurologist, and plans to attend medical school next year.

"I felt a mix of emotions, anxiousness, happiness, excitement, but mostly joy," the bride said of the couple's wedding day in Barrington. "I had never felt joy like that before. The entire day was more than I could've ever imagined. Our family and friends were genuinely happy for us and their love radiated throughout the house." 

Alexis & Julius

ON JUNE 17, 2017, Alexis Edmonds of Schaumburg said, "I do" to Julius Haynie at Barrington's White House, where her father, Rev. Pierre Edmonds of the Eternal Flame AME Church of North Chicago, officiated for the marriage. The wedding and reception were both held at the stately Barrington's White House.

"Hosting our wedding in Barrington meant a lot to me, because my grandfather, Willie Curtis, moved our family into Barrington from Chicago,

during a time when not many African American families were living here," Alexis said. "Having the wedding in Barrington was both symbolic and emotional for me. Barrington's White House was suggested to me by my mother and grandmother, who both have lived in Barrington. We looked online, loved the photos, and then decided to take a tour of the venue. After the tour, we were completely sold on hosting our wedding at Barrington's White House."



Julius Haynie was thrilled to have friends in from around the country at the wedding.

EVENT DETAILS

Jennifer Jinkens Photography
 Duane Liggins Jr., Techwayjunkies Video, Barrington
 Millie Liggins, Event Coordinator, Florist, Barrington
 Jerlicia Hobsons, Make-up artist, Chicago
 Charece Haynie, InStyle Hair Salon Rockford
 Carolyn Brown, Changing Faces Hair Salon, Chicago
 Celia, Sweet C's Bakery for the Cake, Palatine
 Mandile's Italian Ristorante Catering, Algonquin
 Traci Sanders-Campbell, Mistress of Ceremony
 Lisella Martin, Saxophonist
 Charmaine "Char" McAllister, Soloist
 DJ Bside, DJ Reception
 Dress-Davids Bridal
 The Black Tux-Nordstrom



Angel Holden and Harmony Holden



From left: Waquise Farley, Antonia Henry, Aneka Narankhuu, Alexandra Lacey, Alexis Haynie, Malaiika McCoy, Kimberly Diah, and Crystal Johnson



From left: Alese Willis, Alexis Haynie, and Phallon Edmonds



The newlywed couple's first dance.



Alexis wore an ivory wedding dress in honor of Julius' grandmother, Ivory Farley.