

August 9, 2004

Dear Tom and the Heroes,

We had such fun with you all at our reception Saturday night! There are so many ways you enhanced the evening that I'm making a point of writing right away to express our gratitude. I want to be sure to itemize the many qualities we felt were unique and special about your band.

As band manager, Tom, you were a delight to work with. From our very first contact right up until the end, you were always responsive to my calls or e-mails and made us feel like we were an important event on your schedule. We came away from our in-person visit where we went over the timeline with a tremendous feeling of excitement: it was obvious you knew how to run a party! As mother of the bride and "chief coordinator," I was particularly delighted to have you tell me to relax and enjoy myself at the reception, that you all would coordinate with the banquet staff and let us know when we needed to do anything. It was a treat to know I didn't have to worry about "what needed to happen when." Your willingness to create a rehearsal CD for the first dance and father/daughter dance that Claire, Ryan and Paul could practice with and your easygoing response to our request to shorten one song and make sure the timing was exact was so reassuring.

At the reception itself, DiZsa did a wonderful job as master of ceremonies. She was relaxed and friendly with an easygoing, fun style. You weren't kidding when you said you knew how to read a group. The interactive songs where you all either mingled on the dance floor with us or engaged someone or other in a song were handled with charm and grace. (Of course, it probably helped to have a groom that was as much of a ham as Ryan was!) From our perspective and that of our guests, everything was paced beautifully. It always seemed that just when I was thinking I was ready for a little break, you provided it with a slow song, the cake cutting or some other event. The timing was perfect.

And then there's the quality of your music! You are an extremely talented group. We love the breadth of your instrumentalists and the talent of your vocalists. Mattie and DiZsa have lovely voices and the men are wonderful as well. So many bands stick to a certain type of music, but the fact that you play such a broad range of music styles, including new songs as well as old, makes you truly exceptional. Thank you again for learning "Good Lovin"...that was a treat.

Person after person commented on what a great band you are and several said they'd be calling us for your number. Our good friend, Hank Chambers, is chief of staff at Children's Hospital and he said he'd like to hire you for one of their events. You can certainly count us among your many positive references. I'm hoping we'll have another opportunity in the future to line you up for a function.

Thank you again for the energy and enthusiasm you shared with us Saturday night. You were a real highlight in what was for us a very special occasion.

Warmly,
Meridith Lafrenz