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STEPHANIE ELIZABETH RENNELL TO DENNIS MICHAEL TIPPIT

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Writer: Meredith Wierick Photographer: Ashley K Photography

A beautiful invitation from Bering's, hand-lettered in calligraphy, invited guests to celebrate the wedding of Stephanie Rennell to Dennis Tippit at a traditional wedding in February.

Pre-wedding festivities included a bridesmaid's luncheon at Ouisie's Table and a rehearsal dinner at the Historic Heights Firehouse.

On the couple's wedding day, a bagpiper played on the front lawn of St. Paul's United Methodist Church as 250 of the couple's family and friends entered. Members of the St. Paul's choir lent their voices to prelude music as parents and grandparents took their seats. The flower girl wore an Us Angels dress from Priscilla of Boston and carried a basket of flowers that matched the bridesmaids' bouquets. Stephanie, wearing an ivory silk taffeta Pronovias gown from Brickhouse Bridal, made her way down the aisle escorted by her father. She carried both her great-grandmother's handkerchief and a circa-1800s bridal handkerchief belonging to the groom's family.

A reception followed at The Houstonian Hotel. Guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvre before entering the ballroom for a seated dinner. Warm lighting, crisp white linens and flower arrangements set the tone for the intimate reception.

"We wanted our guests to be treated to a warm gathering with as intimate a 'supper' feel as possible. We recalled the details we would have offered guests in our own home and tried to recreate those things, although it was on a larger scale," says Stephanie.

At the reception, guests indulged in an Italian crème bride's cake and a chocolate groom's cake, both created by Susie's Cakes & Confections. Along with Stephanie and Dennis, bridesmaids in floor-length, strapless, slate-blue dupioni silk AlvinaValenta dresses from Louise Blum, and groomsmen in tuxedos from Al's Formal Wear, danced the night away on a monogrammed dance floor created by Bright Star Productions. Ashley K Photography captured each special moment.

"With all the efforts lately to look and feel 'different' with one's wedding and celebration, being different has now become common," Stephanie says. "Our return to tradition was truly refreshing. Many of our guests said it was the most beautiful wedding they have ever been to and that our embracing tradition was not stuffy or boring at all. We are proud that our interpretation of a classic wedding was truly beautiful."

