



In a twist of fate, Alderman worked for the medical program at Northwestern University where Weaver hoped to land a residency. One of his application emails appeared in her inbox. "We hadn't spoken in 10 years, it was just sort of a coincidental thing," said Weaver, adding that he later asked her on a date and the two reignited their romance. "We reconnected at the very end of December, and by Valentine's Day, JJ told me that he loved me," Alderman said.

They were engaged about two years later and made a move from their home state in Illinois to Seattle so Weaver could continue his medical career. When it came time to plan a wedding, they initially planned a larger ceremony, but decided a more intimate gathering with about 20 friends

and family was more their style. "We just felt it was more meaningful for us," added Weaver. "We're both pretty private people. It just felt right for us and worked out perfectly." The couple hired photographer Julie Adams to take their wedding shots, and said she was a perfect fit.

"She captured the essence of the moment and nature perfectly," said Weaver. "A photographer kind of became ingrained with the ceremony, which we were concerned about with an intimate ceremony, but she seemed to understand social nuances really well and was extremely likable and friendly. We felt really comfortable."

They hosted a celebratory dinner at Bistro in Cannon Beach, and stayed at The Ocean Lodge. "The hotel has a 1950s style car that you can arrange

to pick you up for free so we had them come pick us up at Hug Point, we really enjoyed that," Weaver added.

Flowers for the beach wedding were a special treat. Alderman's sister, who is a florist in Chicago for The Flower House, surprised the pair with a floral installation in the sand.

"It just felt like the perfect day," said Weaver. "It sounds sort of cheesy and stereotypical, but every coin flip where things could have gone the wrong way, they went the right way. It was very heartfelt. We both cried a lot in a sort of embarrassing fashion. So it's good in a way that we didn't do that in front of 150 people, just our closest family."

The couple plans to return to Cannon Beach to celebrate their first anniversary next fall.

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