

A woman with dark hair styled in a bun, wearing a white strapless wedding dress with a large white sash, is lying on her back on a light pink background. She is surrounded by several stems of red carnations. She is smiling and looking upwards and to the right.

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FILE PHOTOS: EUGENE GARGA, THE REGISTER  
**THEIR WAY:** Fred Inns, 56, holds up bride Sharon's hand after their wedding in Newport Beach.

## A second chance at love

**AT LAST:** Fred and Sharon were Newport Harbor High School sweethearts in 1964-65 and were reunited years later.



More relaxed and personal, second weddings can give couples their dream day.

By **MARDA LISZEWSKA**  
 THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**T**he first time Sharon Inns got married, 250 family members and friends watched her walk down the aisle of a Whittier church.

The ceremony wasn't the small, casual beach wedding she'd always dreamed about. But her mother was paying, and the 19-year-old bride went along with the traditional ceremony.

Inns' second husband, Fred Inns, also recalls his first wedding as a stressful and busy day spent following plenty of advice from others on how things should be done.

But, decades later, after their first mar-

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# 'We did what we wanted this time'

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ringes faded and the high-school sweetheart reconnects, they got a second chance at love and a wedding that was just about them.

In August 2003, the fiftysomething couple exchanged vows in a small ceremony in the back yard of Sharon's parents.

"It was just me and my high-school sweetheart, so it was a very casual and enjoyable experience," Fred said.

Second weddings often focus more on the couple and are more relaxed, said wedding consultant Rita Provenzio of Romanza Events in San Clemente.

"The fear of the unknown is gone," she said. "They're just there to celebrate and have a good time. It's not all

for show."

Repeat brides and grooms usually pay for the ceremony themselves. That doesn't always mean downsizing.

"Maybe the bride didn't have a big wedding first time around, so now she's going through all the planning and doing the extra expense all the way," Provenzio said.

She said families also tend to be more relaxed at second weddings. Children can be part of the ceremony.

"It's a bit more like coming to a hosted party," Provenzio said.

That's what it felt like for the Inneses.

"The first time, you're very nervous; you don't really know what to expect," Fred said.

"We did what we wanted this time." ■

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RYA PROVENZIO  
WEDDING CONSULTANT WITH ROMANZA  
EVENTS IN SAN CLEMENTE



COURTESY OF RITA PROVENZIO

**CELEBRATION:** Newport Beach residents Yvonne and Paul Leveque marry in 2002 at Hotel Laguna in Laguna Beach. It was a second wedding for both of them.

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