

## Who am I?

I am Diana Cooper. I was ordained as a minister by the Universal Life Church in 2004 and am licensed to perform legally binding marriages throughout West Virginia and a few other states. I own a photography studio with my husband, and work there when I'm not performing weddings or playing with my grandson. My intent as a wedding officiant is to help you have a memorable ceremony that's right for you. You will have **complete** freedom in personalizing and deciding what is and is not acceptable for your ceremony. There are plenty of people to tell you what to do on your wedding day. The ceremony should be one thing that's exactly what you wish.

## Choosing a Wedding Officiant:

How do you know if you are choosing the right officiant? It is always difficult to know for sure that the person you choose will be the best available on your wedding day. Above all, make sure that you are completely comfortable with them and the answers you receive from your questions. Do not be pressured into making a decision at any time if you do not feel comfortable in doing so. If a minister pressures you to decide too soon or to do something you don't want to do, you may want to seek out another officiant.

The decision you make will last a lifetime in your memories. Be sure the memories will be happy ones by choosing the right wedding officiant. And remember, the couple should be the focal point - not the officiant!

And don't forget to verify your officiant's credentials! Many people are under the mistaken belief that because ministers are ordained, they can perform marriages. That may be true in some states, but West Virginia requires that they also apply for and obtain a Certificate granting "authority to perform the rites of marriage" from the Secretary of State. Once licensed, ministers may perform anywhere in West Virginia. You may obtain a copy of my license upon request.

I do speak a fair amount of Spanish, and have a traditional wedding ceremony in that language. I'm happy to work with any couple and interpreter to create a personalized service in Spanish.



*Rev. Diana L. Cooper*

*Wedding Officiant*

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*Your Wedding. Your Way*