

Kerri & Ron: 'Two little kids living in a grown-up world'

A Krispy Kreme wedding cake, chocolate fountain, celebrity impersonators and a color scheme that screams “MORE IS MORE!”—all the essential elements for the perfect wedding reception.

Well, they are if you're a couple of marrying Christian comedians like Kerri Pomarolli and Ron McGehee.

“My side (of the family) is Korean-Irish, hers is Italian-Southern, so it was like a UN meeting with an open bar,” joked McGehee during a recent phone interview with the two-year newlyweds. (No, they're not two years old themselves, although, they might be willing to admit they act like it at times—“I think we constantly just feel like we're two little kids living in a grown-up world,” said Pomarolli.)

But if you think this couple's wedding sounds like it was a bit off the wall, their venture into domesticity might raise a few eyebrows as well. Sky Angel viewers will be able to see for themselves how well Pomarolli, 33, and McGehee, 35, tackle such common newlywed challenges as sharing closet space, tolerating each other's fashion sense (or lack thereof), and planting a rose bush during the half-hour special “I Love Kerri” airing on Sky Angel.

“We don't do it on purpose, but we're always getting into these mad-cap situations, and I don't know whyyy,” said Pomarolli. “I think we just have comedy minds that do dumb stuff.”

That may be partly why Pomarolli vowed she would never marry a comedian—that and, of course, the fact that McGehee didn't have a car when she met him while the two were touring as stand-up comics in Ohio near the end of 2003. In fact, McGehee was taping an episode of the clean comedy show “Bananas,” which is produced by Guardian Television Network and airs regularly on Sky Angel.

“I thought, oh my gosh, he's hilarious; I need to set him up with somebody,” recalled Pomarolli.

Her mother would have probably had a thing or two to say about that. Pre-Ron, Pomarolli's comedy act was predominantly about her southern mama's quest to get her single daughter hitched.

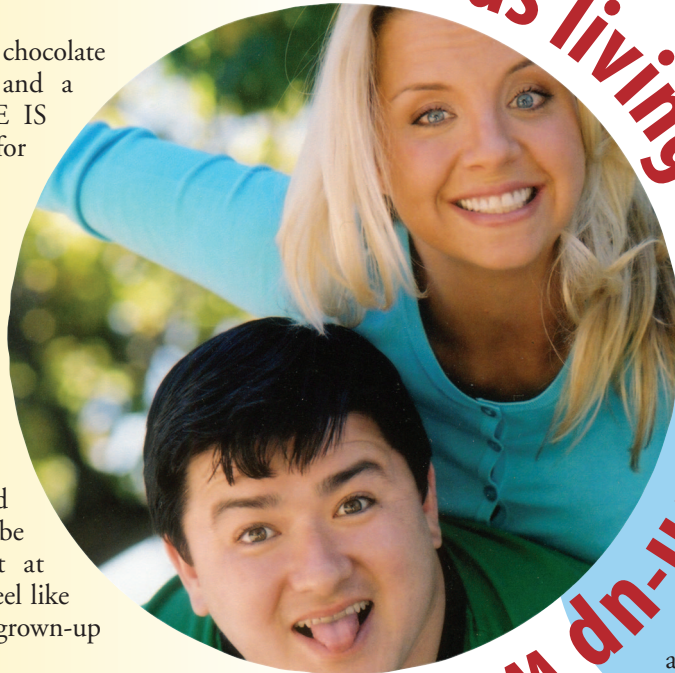
“It was really a big ploy to get grandchildren,” she said. “I found that out when she was calling me on the honeymoon.”

Must have worked; the couple are expecting their first baby this fall.

But just as indifferent Pomarolli was towards McGehee, church bells weren't going off in McGehee's head either. “I thought I wanted to marry someone in the real world with health benefits and all that stuff,” he said.

But God apparently had other things in store for the two.

“We were friends for about a year, and then we were on a tour once again going to Ohio, trapped in a snowstorm, and the Lord literally changed my heart so drastically,” said Pomarolli. “I just fell head over heels crazy for him, and then I had to convince him that he was supposed to marry me basically in three days in Ohio, which



I didn't do a very good job of because he did not get it. So, I had to do the mature thing and have my friend call him on the phone and be like, ‘Kerri likes you.’”

It took a while for cupid's arrow to finally pierce McGehee's heart. He thought Pomarolli was out of his league.

“I thought she was pretty and everything, but in the time we were friends I thought, there's no way this is going to happen so why torture myself with trying to be hopeful,” said McGehee.

“Now I look back and I think it's just so funny because how could anyone understand our life? How could anyone possibly understand the craziness of our travel and our tours if we weren't both doing it?” said Pomarolli, who prior to embracing comedy as a full-time career was an actress in the U.S. and abroad.

Pomarolli and McGehee have both made names for themselves as individual stand-up comedians and continue to tour separately 60 percent of the approximate 45 weekends per year they are away from their West Los Angeles home. McGehee does a lot of youth events while Pomarolli often performs at women's gatherings. They appear at both Christian and secular venues and have a reputation as being “clean” comics, which in the world of secular comedy is almost an oxymoron. But their wholesome acts have earned them spots on some coveted mainstream comedy stages, including appearances by Pomarolli on NBC's “The Tonight Show” and at the world-famous Improv and McGehee as a semi-finalist in the second season of NBC's “Last Comic Standing” and finalist on NBC's “Laugh Factory Latino/Asian-American Comedy Showcase.” At the writing of this article, the two were gearing up to perform at the LA Comedy Festival.

In addition to performing, Pomarolli writes her own bi-monthly advice column, “Confessions,” for “Radiant” magazine, co-writes with McGehee a new advice column in “Positive Reactions” magazine, and is a contributing writer for “Hope for Women” magazine and the Christian teen magazine “Brio.”

Discouraged with dating books about nice women who got married just after puberty and then tried to give relationship advice—“I didn't meet my husband until I was 17, and I'm so glad I waited”—Pomarolli is also author of the book “If I'm Waiting on God, Then What Am I Doing in a Christian Chatroom?,” which she wrote from the perspective of a single woman in the trenches trying to meet Mr. Right.

For more about Kerri and Ron, visit www.ilovekerri.tv, www.kerripom.com and www.funnyron.com