



Waters & Willis

Team Players

by Lauren Farrington | by Leah Seavers, gaudiump photography.com

RUTHELLEN WATERS AND DANNY Willis were raised with coaches as role models – Ruthellen's grandfather, former **Duke** men's basketball coach **Bucky Waters**, and **Carl Willis**, Danny's father and pitching coach for the Boston Red Sox. The pair grew up in Durham, and became middle school sweethearts in 2005. Their romance continued through high school at **Northern**, though Ruthellen transferred to and graduated from **Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill**.

On January 12, 2016, Ruthellen and Danny had just wrapped up a dinner date when Danny's mom, **Rachel**, called to say the couple's 7-month-old son, **Luke**, was being fussy. When she got home and went to check on Luke, Ruthellen found him in his crib in a onesie



that read, "Mommy, will you marry my Daddy?" Turning around in surprise, she saw Danny on one knee, holding a ring. "Of course, I said yes!" Ruthellen says.

While **Amanda Scott** with **A Swanky Affair** prepped **The Cloth Mill** in Hillsborough for the August 13 ceremony, Ruthellen and her bridesmaids got ready, with the help of **Posh The Salon**, in Ruthellen's family home in Bahama. In a romantic union of past and future, the couple took their wedding pictures on Ruthellen's parents' property, which had always been her dream. Yet their time alone couldn't top their moment together with their son, who walked down the aisle with Ruthellen's mom, **Angie**, as the "best little man."

Ruthellen and Danny will continue their love story in Durham. 🐶



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