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[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** Let's kind of go back to the beginning and tell me a little bit about how you two met. So this was a number of years ago in Door County, right?

[00:00:07] **Speaker 2** Well, actually it was in Green Bay at West High School. We were both teaching there, and a lot of our students would say things like, you know, to him.

[00:00:18] **Speaker 3** Yeah, they were like, Mr. Meyer, you've got to go down and check out Ms. K, because you guys come back on Mondays and you're telling the same kind of stories, like fishing and hunting. I'm like, really? I'm, like, what does she teach? And they're like, Family Consumer Ed. And I'm oh, I'll go check it out. So I do a little drive-by and huh, well, I've got investigate this.

[00:00:39] **Speaker 2** One of our first dates was meeting and going fishing at midnight on opening day.

[00:00:44] **Speaker 3** Mm-hmm. And then of course their big thing was to try and catch us dating, you know, so we had back before No phones and you know they've got this one and one one guy had this big huge Video recorder and he'd chasing us around what we came out of this bar downtown and there they are in a car They pulled up and they're like with a big leg. We got you guys and I'm just like, oh man. Yeah

[00:01:11] **Speaker 2** That's how we met, and the first time he came over, I was showing him some pictures in a photo album, and I had a picture of my grandpa who was kneeling down by some rabbits and pheasants, and you know, I learned to hunt with my grandpa. And he looked at it and he went...

[00:01:27] **Speaker 3** And beagles.

[00:01:28] **Speaker 2** And bagels, yeah, the dogs.

[00:01:29] **Speaker 3** Yeah, and beagles. My grandpa was a beagle guy and we hunted rabbits. I could have been looking at my grandpa there.

[00:01:36] **Speaker 2** In fact, he said that to me at the time.

[00:01:38] **Speaker 3** And then, and then the, then, then that couple of months later, we were, uh, we were out, went out to her grandparents' cottage and, um, she had to meet somebody at the cottage. I don't remember what it was, but I had brought my little boat and she's like, just go out there and go down the shoreline where they're building that new house. She said off that point and go out this far and cast a number 11 silver and black Rapala toward shore and, and just, you know, long cast toward shore and just right off that points.

[00:02:08] **Speaker 2** Needless to say, he didn't ever have girls telling him where to go fishing or what to

[00:02:11] **Speaker 3** Well, I grew up in Eau Claire and fishing for smallmouth, and that's what I did all summer. I fished smallmouth. I love fishing smallmouth and back then, you know, everybody kept everything all the way. So to keep, catch smallmouth over 15 inches was like a big deal. You know, we just didn't, I went out there in my very first cast and like, okay, I'll do what I'm told. So I went up there and I made a cast and bait hit the water a couple of cranks. This giant smallmouth pounded, I hooked, came out of the water as an 18 incher and I'm just like. Are you kidding me? I caught seven in a row on seven casts. I'm like, I am marrying this girl. I went back and I was just like, this is unbelievable. I was like, this is unbelieveable. I just was, this, I was shocked.

[00:02:56] **Speaker 1** Well, you certainly couldn't have been restricted in the number of men that wanted to fish. You had to be the high prize here. It made him the one.

[00:03:05] **Speaker 2** Well, um...

[00:03:08] **Speaker 3** Come on, you're thinking awfully hard.

[00:03:10] **Speaker 2** No, no. It was just a thing. I always say the way he talked about stuff and the enthusiasm he has for everything. He taught sales and marketing. Let's just say he could sell anything to anyone because he sold himself to me.

[00:03:26] **Speaker 3** When she died, Pam and consumer ed, teaching people to watch out for those sales and marketing people, so, you know.

[00:03:32] **Speaker 2** But I bought in and we came up here on adventures that I had never been on, but always wished I had gone on and we'd come up and drive logging roads and go fish on little lakes and camp out in a tent on an island on a lake and I just wasn't having, I just thought

[00:03:49] **Speaker 3** Yeah, it was good times.

[00:03:51] **Speaker 1** So then how did that lead to where we are today? What was the progress that led from teaching in Green Bay to being up here?

[00:04:00] **Speaker 3** Well, this was always kind of when you grow up in Eau Claire if you had north a couple hours you're here and coming from Door County and so, you know Eastern Green Bay Eastern, Wisconsin It seems like people don't make that trip pretty much highway 51 is kind of you know, or 13 Maybe but people don't really head west that much so to go from there all the way up here is a long drive But because this was kind of the area that I knew and and and I knew she loved it We did a lot of trips up here, you know, we didn't have a cabin. We camped and once in a while we splurged and rented a cabin and we always deer hunted up here even though we're in the middle of deer crazy numbers of deer back there. We'd come up here and we loved it. I mean it was, you'd go the whole season and not see another hunter a lot of times and you know there were times when the deer population was really strong. It's still pretty good but we always said. This would be a place where we'd want to have a cabin.

[00:04:56] **Speaker 2** And then the graduation to the fishing and the way we fish, because we like fishing wilderness rivers and small lakes and out of a canoe or a cargo canoe that we use, that kind of happened because I asked him to go up to canoe country with me up into the Coetico where I love to go. And the first thing he said to me is, well, can you fish up there? And I'm like, well, yeah. He was, you're not just paddling, you're fishing too? I'm, like, yeah! So we went up on our first trip up there and it was kind of magical. We both just had a great time and caught lots of fish and that was kind of then we when we came back here then we started taking what we learned about fishing out of a canoe there and applying it here even though we had a big boat we'd go out on big water it was just something about being on the small lakes and rivers and just quiet and peaceful and and still catching big fish just a lot of fun.

[00:05:47] **Speaker 3** And then we had an opportunity to buy just a crappy old cabin on a lake. Hadn't been lived in a lot of years and, and, and we bought it and that was kind of when we knew that at some point we're going to, we're going to take that down. We're going live there after we retire. And, um, and that kind of, when we started our guide business, once we had that cabin, we kind of had a home base. Um, we had some people over at the lodge at Boulder lodge, the new owners there. The guides that they had there didn't really have the right focus for what the lodge wanted. The lodge wanted that whole teaching kind of focus, family, kids, which is what we were all about. And so we, they asked us if we would guide, you know, for their client, you know, their customers and they'd have, you, know, we kind of partner and and between Boulder Lodge and Ghost Lake Lodge, those two, we work with them pretty closely and you know people come up for a week's vacation. And they stay on the lake and they fish the lake, but they don't often venture, you know, they don't have the gear, you don't have multiple vehicles, even when you do a river, you need to usually pick up and, you gotta, so we kind of fall in that niche and we love taking kids. I mean, families. Well, and our kids. Families are everything.

[00:06:57] **Speaker 2** Our kids grew up and left, you know, the darn it all, so we didn't have them to drag around the wilderness fishing anymore, so.