

# The Emergency Department and Intensive Care Units in Perfect Harmony: Meet Brooklyn's Nurse Newlyweds



Dynamic duo: Dominick Tomasuolo, RN, BSN, who serves in the Emergency Department (ED) at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn, and Linda Jeane Delfini, RN, BSN, who works in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn, both joined

**With their contrasting healthcare roles, married NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn nurses Dominick Tomasuolo and Linda Jeane Delfini support each other as they balance work and graduate school.**

There's a longtime joke that Emergency Department (ED) and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) nurses don't get along. "We're not supposed to like each other, since we're so different," says Dominick Tomasuolo, RN, BSN, who serves in the ED at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn.

"ED nurses work in a space that's messy and chaotic, whereas ICU nurses like everything organized and regimented," adds Linda Jeane Delfini, RN, BSN, who works in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU), also at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn.

So, is the joke true to life? "Maybe a little," says Delfini with a laugh. She and Tomasuolo got married a year ago.

the hospital in 2019. They are each now pursuing graduate degrees in addition to working.

*"Linda Jeane is terrifically neat and organized, and I am significantly less regimented,"* adds Tomasuolo.

*"But Dominick functions well in a chaotic setting in a way I never could,"* Delfini says. *"He knows what to prioritize, and he gets it all done."*

Sounds like a twosome who have known each other awhile. The pair met as 14-year-old ninth graders at Staten Island Academy—or so they thought. "Once we went on a few dates, it didn't take long before we figured out that we also went to the same preschool," says Delfini, underscoring that the pair have spent much of their lives by each other's sides. After dating all through high school and graduating in 2015, they entered Wagner College, where they enrolled in the same undergraduate program comprised of two years of core classes and two years of nursing courses. "I chose nursing because I love engaging with people," says Delfini. Tomasuolo was drawn to the profession due to his interest in psychology and serving people in need.

In the months after graduation in 2019, they both were hired in separate areas at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn. "Several of our Wagner College classmates had gotten jobs here in the past and spoke so well of it, so we were excited to apply," recalls Tomasuolo. Delfini adds that with the NYU connection, "we knew the standards would be high." Delfini interviewed in September, and Tomasuolo in November. "Then it was just fate that we both were hired," Delfini says. "We were thrilled."

Five years later, the pair reflects on what it's been like to work at the same hospital as your spouse. "A lot of people say, 'I could never do that,' but I don't mind it at all," says Delfini, who adds that the two commute together most days. "Our support system is so much bigger because we work at the same place." Indeed, when the two got

married on December 31, 2023, the celebration included two tables of hospital colleagues.

Tomasuolo sees another advantage for the duo: "It's helpful having someone who understands what you do," he says. "We have real conversations about our jobs."

The year 2024 was one of growth for the pair, who started graduate degrees—at different schools this time. Delfini is pursuing a dual family nurse practitioner and nurse education master's program at Wagner College, which she'll complete in two and a half years, as she has shifted to part-time work. "One day, I hope to work in a recovery room or in ambulatory surgery," she says. "And the nurse education master's would allow me to teach undergraduates doing clinical training in a hospital."

Tomasuolo is studying at Hunter College to become a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, a master's degree that will take him four years since he'll continue working full-time. "Ever since I took psychology in high school, my goal has been to work in a psychiatric office with teenagers experiencing ADHD, learning disorders, anxiety, and depression," he says.

While they're excited about the future, balancing work, school, and finding time for each other has been a challenge. "We try to book a dinner together every couple of weeks, just some time to relax and connect," says Tomasuolo. Delfini adds, "It's papers and homework and no days off, with a lot of time commuting to work and to school. But we both know the work will be worth it and, in the meantime, we have each other to lean on."