



# Champlin, MN Couple Finalists in America's Favorite Couple 2025 – A Story of Love, Inclusion, and Resilience

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**Minnesota couple advocates for Deaf representation and love after 40 in national contest spotlight.**

**Champlin, MN — July 2025**

Shannon O'Malley and Rene Martinez, a blended family couple from Champlin, Minnesota, are finalists in America's Favorite Couple 2025, a national competition celebrating real love stories. Their journey highlights the power of visibility, inclusion, and connection — particularly for Deaf individuals navigating modern dating.

Rene, who is Deaf, experienced painful in-person ghosting on dates simply because of his disability. Together, Shannon and Rene are using this opportunity to shed light on the challenges faced by those dating with disabilities and to celebrate resilience, kindness, and love found later in life.

The competition's grand prize includes a **\$20,000 cash award and a feature in Variety Magazine**. Voting is open to the public, free, and can be done daily through September.

*"It's not just about votes," says Shannon. "It's about showing the world that love after 40, Deaf love stories, and blended families deserve to be celebrated too."*

**Vote for Shannon & Rene here:**

<https://americasfavcouple.org/2025/shannon-and-rene>

## Fast Facts

- Location: Champlin, Minnesota
- Story: Deaf inclusion, blended family, love after 40
- Competition: America's Favorite Couple 2025
- Grand Prize: \$20,000 + Feature in Variety Magazine
- Voting: Free, once every 24 hours
- Link: <https://americasfavcouple.org/2025/shannon-and-rene>



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