

Gifts that kept on being given

Particularly before online registries, it was common for couples to receive duplicates of a gift. A few examples from over the decades:

	Judith E. Cook , 64, jeweler, Newton	Ed Stuhr , 66, retired teacher, Marlborough	Tyrene Johnston , 54, teacher, Sharon	Aida Cruz , 68, housewife, Boston	Peg Crissinger , 46, paralegal, Amesbury	Tina Pope Rowley , 45, sales representative, Brookline	Mark Fleishman , 33, systems engineer, Boston	Eugenia Knight , 29, education director, Dorchester
Married	August 1957	December 1960	August 1969	April 1975	June 1978	November 1983	August 1994	December 2000
Multiple	"Tea sets. They had huge saucers [for cookies or other things] and the ring where you put the cup is over to the side."	Electric fry pans	"A fondue set. That's what everyone gave back then."	Bedroom sets, also known as "bed in a bag"	Rival crockpots	"Woks. They were identical."	Crystal candlesticks	Knife sets
How many?	"Lots."	"Three."	"At least four."	"Three."	"Four or five."	"Three."	"Five sets."	"Four."
What did you do?	"Some of them I put in whatever I had for a china cabinet, and the rest stayed wrapped up in boxes for years and years in the basement. I never used them because I never entertained. And I didn't drink tea."	"We kept two and returned one." Why? "I don't remember, but I can tell you in my more recent behavior that I have kept multiples of a lot of crap."	"We actually regifted a couple, which is weird. I think we ended up with two. ... It was so funny. We were so poor and needed so many other things. We didn't have pots or pans or sheets, and we got fondue pots."	"I kept them all."	"I returned them and got other items. Well, I kept one. I use mine all the time. Actually, I have three now."	"We kept one with the hope that we would use it and be conscientious, good healthy cookers. And it never really came to fruition. We ended up using the wok tools; they are my favorite kitchen utensils now."	"I think we kept two, and returned three. We use them occasionally, on special occasions or something."	"One I gave to my mother-in law for Christmas, and the others I returned." Does she know they were a wedding gift? "No, but it's what she asked for, and I had them."

GLOBE STAFF GRAPHIC/MICHAEL PRAGER AND SUZET ROMAN