Across

6. DESERTION—dropping the knot and running
8. SEPARATION—a formal knot loosening
9. PROXY—substitute string
10. JOIN—tie
11. DEATH—a natural knot severance
12. NAME—This often changes when one gets tied
14. EX—What your spouse becomes when you sever the knot
15. WEDDING—a knot tying ceremony
19. FLOG—to beat severely with a whip or rod
21. COMMON LAW—an old fashioned knot
23. COHABITATION—it only looks like a knot
24. PUTATIVE SPOUSE—she believed in good faith it was a knot
25. LICENSE—official permission to tie

Down

1. JACTITATION—a false declaration that your knot is tied
2. DIVORCE—severing to the knot
3. BANNS—public notice or proclamation of a knot to be tied
4. BIGAMY—two knots at once
5. INVADER—to enter by force in order to conquer or pillage
7. ENGAGEMENT—a promise to tie
8. SHAM—a trick knot
13. ANNUL—to claim that the knot never tied
16. DAD—Father
17. MARRIAGE—tying the knot
18. PLEAD—to say in a petition
19. FACTS—what juries decide
20. VOID—not a knot (even if you tried to tie it)
22. INLAW—one of your spouse’s family