

Hello we are...
Alicia & Dan





Our Hopes and Dreams...

We have known each other for twelve years. As we developed a friendship we both knew that we would be together forever. Having such a great friendship has allowed us to travel through life together weathering all the storms that have come our way. We were married in July 2007 on a beautifully hot day. After our wedding we moved into our first home together which was a very small apartment. The size, quality, and location of the apartment meant very little to us because we were so content just being together.

Alicia graduated with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in the winter of 2007 and Dan graduated with a bachelor's degree in Facilities Management in the spring of 2008. Soon after graduation we both landed our first jobs and life was going great. Just as comfort set in we both learned that we were going to be laid off due to the poor economy. We both began job hunting and jokingly made a pact that whoever received the first job offer held the key to where we would move. Dan was offered a position, and within a few weeks of accepting the position we moved.

After 4 years of failed infertility treatments we knew that adoption was the journey for us. When we stopped the infertility treatments we felt liberated in our choice to adopt. Although the journey has not been easy we never lost sight of the desire to have a family.

We believe that together we can accomplish anything. We have been married for five years now and are closer than ever before. While there may be large set-backs, we can overcome the hurdles that life throws back at us. Our best strength as a couple is our friendship and our communications; we live our lives in an open, honest, and loving way.

We know that we can provide children a stable life filled with love, support, guidance, and joy. Through many exciting adventures we will learn and grow. We look forward to the sounds of little giggles and footsteps in our home and will embrace the scraped knees and cries in the middle of the night.

If you select us to parent your child, we promise that your baby will be loved, protected, and celebrated by not only ourselves but our family, friends, and community. We will only and always love them unconditionally. We vow to always let them know that you are an incredible person who placed their needs above your own. Someone once said that, "sometimes, reaching out and taking someone's hand is the beginning of a journey. At other times, it is allowing another to take yours." It is our hope that we can make this journey easier for you by traveling it together.

Yours Truly,

Alicia & Dan


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Our values and beliefs as parents...

Above all else we value our family. We visit our family as often as possible. Although being many miles away can make this more challenging, we always make an effort to see our family on holidays and special occasions. Our family has always been a significant support system for us and we know they will provide the same to our children. We hope to raise our children to value their family, including you, as much as we do.

We will raise our children to be kind, loving, patient, and forgiving individuals. We help those in need. We know that it is our duty as parents to teach our children by example. It is important to us that our children grow up to be productive citizens. With our support, love, and guidance we believe our children can become anything they want to be.

A good education is a significant part of our children's future. We will always be their number one "teachers," but will also ensure that their needs are met at school. Academically, socially, and emotionally we want our children to be challenged at school. We value the diversity and opportunity a public school education can provide children. We look forward to sharing our love for learning with our children.

Both of us love to learn about new things and try new things. Someone once said, "If my child wants to be a pilot, I am going to buy them a plane. If my child wants to be a painter, I will buy brushes. If my child wants to engineer skyscrapers, I will buy them a calculator and pencil." This quote is a reflection of exactly how we feel about our child's future; we will support their dreams and desires to try new experiences.

We always do our best and work hard, but we believe in having fun regardless of what life brings us. We will encourage our children to embrace the same attitude. Having fun is one of the many qualities that drew us together and still holds strong in both of us today. We are constantly laughing at ourselves, telling jokes, singing in the car, and startling each other from around the corner out of good fun.



We focus on what matters to make every adoption a *beautiful experience*.



A little more about us...

- Both non-smokers
- Family dog

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother:

Spending time with family and friends, coffee and conversation, playing cards, watching movies, reading, listening to music, journaling, running and swimming, camping, baking and cooking, volunteering and going to church.

Adoptive Father:

Watching movies, building computers, wood working projects, spending time with family and friends, cooking and grilling outside, yard projects, traveling, going to church.

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Elementary Teacher

Adoptive Father: Property Manager

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelors Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelors Degree

Our home...

Our home is located in a very friendly neighborhood. Our neighbors are genuine and we can always count on them if we need something. Our growing area has a lot of families with children. We live at the end of a cul-de-sac and have a fenced in backyard. We have great schools, parks, and shopping facilities nearby. We love the diversity of people and culture in our area. Our home is located within 20 minutes of several museums, sporting venues, aquarium, zoo, and nearly any other exciting type of activity. In the past we played on an intramural kickball team and made many good friends - even though our team was not the best!

What makes our house a home is the love that is within the walls. Our home is a place filled with love, kindness, and most importantly grace. It is a safe place where individuality is welcomed and accepted. When family and friends come to visit, we spend our time chatting over amazing food, games, and movies. We make it a priority no matter how stressful or busy the day was to eat dinner together every night at the table. It is our favorite time of the day because it is our time to relax, share, and listen to one another. We can't wait to see our children's first bites of food and listen to them jabbering at the table.

We look forward to having our children running around our home and creating memories that will last forever. We can't wait for their first steps, haircut, and lost tooth. We're looking forward to decorating our walls with their artwork and pictures. We are excited for their first day of school and when they learn how to ride their bike. We can't wait to make snow forts and snow angels in the backyard. We will always be there with a band aid to heal their bumps and bruises. At the end of the day, we'll always carry them upstairs and safely tuck them into bed with a story. Most importantly there will always be "I love you," before each, "good night."

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Our family...

Family means giving your heart to someone and knowing that love builds an indestructible bond. We would love to have three children to give our hearts to for the rest of our lives. For us, it doesn't matter what we are doing or where we are going. It is more about being with our family and creating memories that last a lifetime. We have been blessed with the most amazing parents who have molded us into the people we are today. It's because of our parent's positive influence in our lives that we know we will also be great parents.



As a child, growing up for Alicia meant spending summers outside playing at her Grandparent's house or traveling up north to her family's cabin on the lake. For Dan, it was road trips to his relative's houses and going fishing with his brother. Still to this day we cherish our siblings by celebrating old and making new traditions. Alicia and her sisters still decorate the family Christmas tree and as Alicia's parents adopted her little brother just last year he now helps with this tradition. Alicia's little brother has been such a wonderful blessing to our family. Alicia jokes that she always wanted a little brother and never thought her wish would come true so many years later! Dan and his sister and brother still enjoy visiting in the kitchen as their mom bakes. They still can't resist eating her cookies straight out of the oven!

A tradition Dan holds close to his heart is gathering for Christmas. He can remember going to his grandparents' home two hours away to celebrate with them and the entire family, of almost 75 people. Alicia loves Thanksgiving and the memories it brings back sitting at the kids table in the basement while all the adults were upstairs chiming in on current affairs of the world. Dan likes to celebrate the Fourth of July with friends. He has had a lot of fun with fireworks. Every New Year's we both celebrate with a group of friends from college and have made it a tradition each year. Alicia likes to go to the family cabin on Labor Day, just before school starts. As you can see all holidays are very important to both of us because it gives us another reason to get together with family and friends to celebrate. We anticipate making endless memories with our children during any holiday we can celebrate – as long as we are together.



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