

Hello we are...

Danielle & Cory



Graceful
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Our Hopes and Dreams...

We don't care about the cars we drive or the size of our home. As long as our home is always filled with love, we've succeeded.

We met more than 16 years ago and have been married for more than five years. Cory is level-headed and logical, focused and decisive, calm and loving, considerate and faithful, and very funny! Danielle is passionate, honest, selfless and giving, and incredibly loving. We are fully committed to one another and take our wedding vows seriously. We have an unconditional love that keeps growing and we work hard on communication skills to ensure we continue our strong marriage.

We have always wanted children and tried to conceive before our adoption journey began. At one point we worked with a fertility specialist and got pregnant. Unfortunately that baby was not meant to be and we miscarried. We knew this was God's way of drawing us to adoption and if adoption was the route God wanted us to travel, we wanted to go. We knew adoption would be a wonderful way to grow the family we had always dreamed of!

We want the world for our child. We offer a love that is greater than anything we can describe.

We both have stable jobs and our home is filled with laughter. We will raise our child in a loving Christian home where there is always a roof over their head, food in their bellies, and plenty of opportunities to just be a kid.

We have a large yard where our child will play, run and test their limits - a play set with two swings, a slide, a tree house with a steering wheel, a climbing wall, and monkey bars, a tether ball, a basketball hoop, a tire swing, and a vegetable garden that our child can help us plant, watch grow and then enjoy the harvest.

For you, we pray that you will have peace with your decision. If you select us as the adoptive parents for your child, we will always honor you and your child will know how special you are to us and to them.

We will always respect you and the selfless love you have for your child.

Sincerely,

Cory & Danielle


Graceful
adoptions™

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

515.225.6351 / 877.628.1415

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Our values and beliefs as parents...

Faith. We are Christians who believe in God the Father and his son Jesus Christ. God is the center of our lives and marriage, and is the glue that holds us together. On Wednesday nights we go to church sharing a meal with the Youth Group and leading a discussion with them. Although we believe going to church and sharing our faith with other Christians is important, we don't hide from the world by only spending time with other Christians. Instead we live our lives showing others the love we have for them. Our child will see how our faith plays out in our lives, as well as experience it through attending church together as a family.



Family. We are there for our family and they are there for us no matter what the circumstances. We celebrate, laugh and joke together. When needed we are there to pick up the pieces and help put things back together. It's just what our family does. We will be open and honest with our child so they know they can always trust us. When they come to us we will be open, loving, and understanding about whatever is important to them. They will grow up knowing they are part of a family unit who will always be there to support them. They will never have to "go at it alone."

Learning and Education. We understand that a child begins to learn long before they enter the classroom. From a very early age we will set aside time for learning activities and make everything we do an opportunity to learn. As they enter school we will be engaged in what they are learning and reinforce activities at home. We will help them complete homework and help apply what they are learning in everyday life. We will encourage curiosity and learning outside the classroom through sports and other extracurricular activities. And, we know that every child learns differently. (Danielle chose to go to college as classroom learning is how she learns best. Cory learns best through research and hands-on experience.) We will always advocate for our child to learn in a way that is best for him or her.



Compassion. The world needs more compassion, people who genuinely care for others, people who don't see or care about differences. We are compassionate people and we will raise our child to be compassionate. We see differences in people - in race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, opinion, thought, schooling, experiences, etc. - as opportunities to learn another perspective and to be compassionate. We will show this through serving in the community, how we treat others, and by doing kind deeds for others with no reward other than knowing we were kind and compassionate when someone needed us most.



Fun and Laughter. There is a cheesy saying that goes, "Don't take life too seriously, you'll never get out alive." As weird as this sounds, it's very true. It's easy to get "caught up" with life. It's so important to remember to have fun and laugh often. We go on long bike rides, go camping, enjoy sitting around the fire pit laughing, we play board games or card games, etc. We often break out into song when we are in the car or hanging out in the kitchen. We dance around belting out old songs while we cook or clean and often laugh at how our child will respond to our antics when they are a teenager. We will strive to teach our child to enjoy life at every possible opportunity - regardless of their age!

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Our home...

We live in a quiet community. Our house is on the edge of town so there is very little traffic on our street. Our neighbors are super friendly and watch out for each other. There are lots of children in the neighborhood so we know our child will have many children to play with close to home.

When people walk into our home they feel that it is just that, a home. It isn't a pristine dollhouse that cannot be touched, it's full of comfort and fun. Everyone is always welcome!



Our kitchen and living room are the center of our home. Our kitchen has gray walls, black lower cabinets and white upper cabinets. Our table is round and seats 4, but we expand it often when we have company over to make room for games, and lots of food. The spacious living room is warm and welcoming with tan furniture great for lounging, bookshelves filled with books and games, and walls covered with pictures. There is plenty of floor space to spread out and play with toys or games. The "sun room" is just that, a room with Eastern facing windows drenched in sunlight where we enjoy coffee together on Saturday mornings. With sun on her face this is where Danielle scrapbooks and sews.

Our bedroom and the baby's bedroom are across from each other. The baby's room will have gray walls and we will paint the ceiling pink or blue, depending on our child's gender. There are built-in bookshelves that will hold all the books we will read to them as we rock them in the same chair that was used to rock Danielle to sleep when she was young. Access to a "secret hiding place" is through the closet, a small door to a room under the stairs which we are sure will become our child's inside fort.

A little more about us...

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

I enjoy walking, riding bikes, crocheting, scrap booking, camping, and gardening.

Adoptive Father:

I love being in the outdoors as much as possible; hunting, fishing, riding bikes, cooking, camping and enjoying Gods creation.

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: HR Service Consultant

Adoptive Father: HVAC Technician

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: High School Diploma

We typically cook dinner together (or Danielle lets Cory cook while she hangs out in the kitchen using her "beautiful singing voice" to serenade him). We eat dinner together at the table and then, if the weather permits, head outside to sit around a bonfire telling jokes, sharing stories and enjoying one another's company. It's always better with s'mores!

We love the weekends! We often have friends come over for dinner and games or a bon fire. Some of our favorites are brats and burgers on the grill. Cory loves to cook and Danielle loves hanging out and helping him in the kitchen. Working together on a meal is always fun. Cory will stop chopping and grab Danielle and start swing dancing, slow dancing, or trying to tango or waltz around the kitchen to some random tune on the radio. On Sundays we go to church with our families and often join them for lunch afterwards. The rest of the day we relax, go for a bike ride, watch a movie, work in the garden, or whatever else we want to do most.

We look forward to hearing a child's laugh fill our home. We look forward to the memories we will make with them and the love we get to share. We enjoy being silly and can't wait to share that and see what silliness our child will be teaching us soon!



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Our family...

We met when Danielle was in 6th grade and Cory was in 8th. Cory was hanging out with a friend who was babysitting Danielle's neighbor. Danielle thought he was cute so she started throwing snowballs at him. Later that Spring we met again and realized we only lived a couple blocks from each other so we hung out quite a bit. That summer Cory was a lifeguard and Danielle would make him a sandwich for lunch almost every day.

After Cory graduated we didn't see each other very often. One night Danielle called a mutual friend for a ride and headed back to his apartment with him and his girlfriend. And there was Cory, his roommate. We started hanging out again and began dating a few months later.

When we started dating it was easy to see how much love he had to offer. When Danielle's brother Ryan was 7 he needed surgery. On the day of the surgery, Cory took the day off work to be with the family. When it was time for Ryan to start walking, Cory would follow, pushing his urine bag. I'm not sure how many guys would push around their girlfriend's brother's pee, but I knew I had found one and was happy to keep him.

We dated for three and a half years before getting married. Cory proposed on the day we moved into our house. Exhausted after spending the day moving he asked, "would you like to make me the happiest man?" I was so tired and thought he wanted me to make him food or find something, I said "no." Little did I know the question was a marriage proposal.

We have continued to have fun together ever since. We love to camp at a site by the river not too far from our house. We enjoy setting up our tent, cooking brats over an open fire, and sleeping under the stars. We sit around playing word games or listening to music and talking. Most nights we have the cover off the top of our tent and fall asleep looking at the stars. In the morning Cory is the first to rise and typically makes breakfast for us, he gets the fire started and we spend a relaxing morning together.

Every year Cory's family has a big gathering called the Koch Olympics. There are almost 50 people who participate. His uncle heads up the games and comes up with some very crazy and unique games; golf cart races with full glasses of water in the back that can't be spilled, human disk golf, and many more. There are various points awarded and secret points that can be added or taken away as his uncle decides. It is a full weekend event with lots of food, love, and laughter.

Our families can't wait for us to have a child and are almost as excited as we are. Our parents have come over to help paint, clear out the nursery, and get the house in order for our new addition. They have been jokingly arguing over who gets to babysit first. Cory's dad has already decided he will be called Papa. Danielle's siblings are excited to go on walks and play with the baby and to see who can be the favorite aunt or uncle as they grow up.



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