

Hello we are...

Darren & Julie



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Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our dream is to have a child. A child to share everything life has to offer. A child to support, teach and care for so they may discover who they are and who they want to be. A child to love unconditionally. The type of deep love that focuses only on the positive, is patient, and kind. A love so pure our child will never question how we feel about him or her. That is our dream!

We have been together for 11 years and have been happily married for 10 years. We own a home, we have great jobs and are financially stable. We contribute to our community and volunteer our time, energy and resources to various organizations that are “near and dear” to our hearts. We are healthy, in mind and body, and actively participate in life. We are quiet, yet we like to have fun and are actually pretty goofy!

Like most people, we have experienced hardship. We struggled with infertility for a year and a half prior to conceiving our first child, our son Owen. Just a few months shy of his fourth birthday he was diagnosed with a brain tumor and despite all the prayers, and the best doctors and treatments, he passed away seven short months later. With the care, love and support of our family and friends, we are ready to move forward and looking forward to growing our family once again.

We know adoption is the right path for us. Prior to Owen getting sick we had made the decision to adopt. We have many friends and family who were adopted or have adopted, thus we know firsthand a child doesn't have to be born to us to be loved by us and our family. In fact, our child will be quite spoiled by his or her grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins!

We know that for us to grow our family, a loving mother must make an adoption plan for her child. Although we can only imagine how difficult this might be, we are sure it takes courage, strength and the utmost selflessness. If you choose us to be the adoptive parents for your child, we assure you that your child will be loved beyond words. We commit to you that we will always honor and respect you as our child's mother and the amazing woman who made us parents again. Owen will always be a part of our family. This child will always be a part of your family.

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

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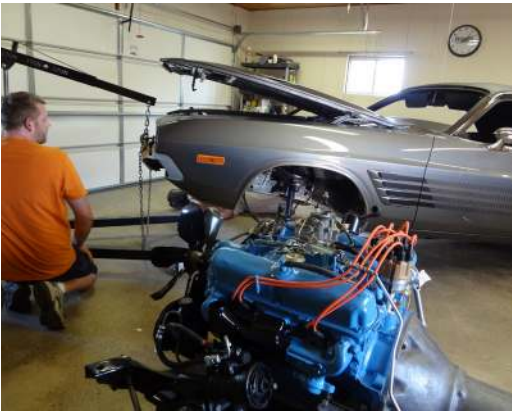
Our values and beliefs as parents...



Family - Our parents taught us about commitment and have prepared us well for our marriage and our family. Darren's parents have been married for more than 40 years, and mine have been together for more than 20 years. We have learned not to take anyone or anything for granted and to cherish life and everyone in it. We enjoy our time together whether we're having dinner, talking, just hanging out, or working on projects. We can't wait to share the unconditional love and dedication of our families with our child. Grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles on both sides can't wait to play and teach our child everything they know.



Education - We believe education is a lifelong journey. We will be our child's first teacher and help them explore the world around them. We know each child learns in his or her own way and we will be their advocate to help find what works for them. We will read with our child to help expand their mind and vocabulary. We can't wait to share a few of our favorite books such as Amos and Boris, The Big Red Dog, I Love You Forever, and of course all the Dr. Seuss stories like The Lorax, Cat in the Hat and Green Eggs and Ham. We will help our child grow his or her imagination with lots of play time starting with peek-a-boo at an early age to playing house, mimicking the sounds animals make at the zoo, racing cars on a track and playing games. When the time comes, we will provide our child the opportunity to go to college if that is the choice they make.



Having Fun - We like to be goofy and make one another laugh by giving each other a hard time and playing jokes on one another. This past April Fool's Day I taped the sprayer down on our kitchen sink. When Darren tried to get a glass of water he got a shower instead. (He got me good the previous year). Darren also likes to be goofy by dancing silly when we hear a great song. A suspense or comedy movie and a bowl of popcorn is always a fun evening. One of our favorite movies is New in Town. We also enjoy trying new things for fun. Recently we've gone zip lining, parasailing, for a hot air balloon ride and we went on a cruise for the first time. We find fun in everything we do and can't wait to enjoy life with our child.



Being Thankful - We believe it's important to appreciate what you have in life and not always look for something else or something more. We are very thankful to have our loving family and friends, stable jobs, our beautiful home. Even though there are projects to be completed at home, it's easy to find joy and peace there. Our child will have everything they need and much of what they want like toys; we will also teach our child how to share.

Honesty - We were both raised to be hard working, trustworthy and honest people. We certainly understand that sometimes it's easier not to tell the complete truth. Maybe you don't want to hurt someone's feelings or think that it won't matter. We believe honesty is always the best policy and will teach our child this value through our actions. A good example of this happened about a month ago when Darren ordered a part for his car that was delivered by mail. After inspecting the part, he realized it was defective. Darren called the company and they sent a replacement part. Darren received the replacement part as well as a refund. When he called the company to tell he received both, they sent him a small gift card for his honesty.

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Our home...

We live in a quiet family-friendly town close to two larger cities that has lots of activities for children. We are far enough away from the hustle and bustle that we can enjoy our quiet and peaceful town, yet close enough to a number of attractions, such as a children's play station, parks, museums, roller skating, swimming, a splash pad, and plenty of restaurants, to have fun on a moment's notice. It's the perfect place to raise a child.

When we found our home, we knew it was the right home for us. The neighbors are friendly and always ready to lend a hand. The neighborhood kids are very active and play together all of the time. We see children riding bikes, sledding, playing on the nature trail that goes through town, and playing at the park. We pass many kids enjoying wagon rides and being pushed in strollers as we walk around town with our dog.

While there are many fun ways to spend time together as a family, there is one weekend every summer our family particularly loves! During the town festival Main Street is blocked off for all the kids' activities such as bounce houses and face painting, and there is a parade that circles through town. At dusk fireworks light up the sky. Following the fireworks, a band plays while the kids dance. All the children have so much fun!

We have lived in our home for 10 years now and spent the first several years making it ours. Our living space is very open, warm and inviting. It's a home to be lived in. The colors, as well as lots of family pictures, warm up the space. One of our favorite areas for entertainment is the lower level. It is divided between a TV area with plenty of seating, and a recreational area with a ping pong table and a dart board for hours of entertainment when we are in a competitive mood or when friends and family come to visit. They are always welcome and make themselves right at home.

Another favorite area is our fenced-in backyard. It will be a great place for our child to run and play, and includes a swing set with a slide and a sand box to dig and build anything they can imagine. We also have a fire-pit where we roast marshmallows, enjoy conversation and s'mores. We can't wait for our child to plant their own garden. Some of our favorites are tomatoes, green peppers and squash. We can't wait to discover our child's favorite home grown vegetable and fruit.

We have a nursery all ready for a child. The room has pale yellow walls with light blue and green stripes. There are pictures of whimsical animals on the walls that create a warm and happy feeling. There is also a little reading area with a rocking chair where we will hold our child while we read and when we rock him or her to sleep. The bookshelves will hold plenty of books which we will read to them every night.

We can't wait to create lasting memories. The first words, the first steps, the first holiday. We are most looking forward to the laughter, the giggles and watching them grow. Life is precious. It's the little things in life that count. Story time, bath time, dinner time... Showing them how to brush their teeth, tie their shoes, and zip up their coat. Honestly, we are looking forward to it all!



- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Going for walks, bike riding, crafts such as pottery, simple sewing projects, going to the movies, family vacations

Adoptive Father:

Family vacations, going to the movies, restoring old cars, working on model cars, going for walks, hanging out with friends

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Physical Therapist Assist

Adoptive Father: Truss Designer

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Associates Degree

Adoptive Father: Associates Degree



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Our family...

We met by means of today's online technology, our site of choice was Match.com. We shared e-mails back and forth for a couple of weeks. We decided you can only learn so much about each other through e-mail and we wanted to see what may come next. On our first date was Friday the 13th. We both chuckled at the date, but since neither of us were superstitious we took a chance. We met at a casual restaurant in a small town halfway between where we each lived. The conversation went well so we decided to go bowling. We were delighted to discover we really connected, and we still do 11 years later.

We are best friends and our love grows stronger every day. We both have a calm and quiet spirit, are a bit goofy at times, and like to have fun. Darren is very caring and patient. I'm loving, honest, and organized. We like to go to the movies or watch movies at home. We both have a competitive side. When we play ping-pong, Darren always wins! When we play darts, I win. Uno and Sorry are our favorite board games. We are good at compromising and finding something that works for the both of us. Life is too short for anything else.

Our family has a strong commitment to the one's we love. Darren's parents have been married for 40 years, mine have been married for over 20 years. Julies parents are goofy and aren't easily embarrassed. Darren's parents are reserved and quiet. Both sides have grandchildren and love spending time with all the kids. We color and hide Easter eggs for the kids at Easter, decorate and distribute baskets on May Day. Christmas stockings are hung and filled on Christmas morning. We celebrate holidays and birthdays with family, presents and treats are always included! We have fun going to the MOPAR nationals every year.

After building a strong foundation we started trying to have children. It took 1 ½ years to conceive our son, Owen. When he turned one we started to try to conceive our second child. We even tried infertility treatments a couple of times with no luck. We knew at that time we were going to try adopt. We knew a child didn't have to be born to us to be our child.

However, when our son got sick right before his fourth birthday we put everything on hold. Our son was diagnosed with an aggressive form of brain cancer. Unfortunately, even the best hospitals and doctors couldn't help and seven months after he was diagnosed, Owen passed away.

We lost Owen over 3 years ago. It's now time to expand our family once more with the hope and dream to share everything life has to offer with another child. We want to share our family traditions and create brand new ones. Maybe they will include visiting our favorite amusement park or zoo, or attending a major league baseball game to watch our favorite team. Regardless, our new traditions surely will include what our child enjoys.

Seeing life through the eyes of a child is priceless. We can't wait to be parents again!



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