

Hello we are...

Hilliary & Jason



Graceful
adoptions™



Our Hopes and Dreams...

We have been happily married for more than 10 years and more than anything else, we dream of having a child.

Our relationship started on what was supposed to be a single evening together and blossomed from there. We dated almost four years before getting married, building a strong foundation for our future. After Hilliary spent eight years as an elementary school teacher before transitioning to her current career in information technology, we knew we wanted a family.

It wasn't until later we discovered we had fertility issues. We got pregnant on the second round of IVF; however, our child was born just shy of 26 weeks and died during surgery 6 weeks after he was born. At this time we were told we probably couldn't carry any child to term.

We want to provide a child a safe and loving home where he/she can grow and thrive. How that child comes to us doesn't matter to us. We will love and support our child no matter what! We look forward to cuddling, playing, and reading with our child. We look forward to everything, even the middle of the night feedings, getting spit-up on, and changing messy diapers!

We want you to be comfortable with your decision and for your adoption plan to be wholly your choice. We also want you to know you and your family are welcome and encouraged to have a place in our life. We are committed to making sure the child we share knows you, his/her story, and the love you have for him/her.

No matter what family you select, we wish you the very best.

Warmest Wishes,

Hilliary & Jason



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

515.225.6351 / 877.628.1415 GracefulAdoptions.com



Our values and beliefs as parents...



Kindness to All - We believe it's important to treat everyone with kindness, warmth, and to acceptance regardless of their religion, sexual preference, color of their skin, education level, size of their house or bank account. To us, all people need and deserve kindness. We try to help, and show up, for others when we can. We open and hold doors for others, pay for the next person in line, and when a friend is having a bad day, take her a cup of coffee or chocolates. You never know what others are going through so showing grace is important. We will teach our child the importance of showing compassion by helping our child develop an awareness regarding when others may need help, saying please and thank you, and sharing toys. As our child grows they will participate in our family giving by packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child, raising money for Little Giraffe Foundation, and donating gift bags at the local hospital.



Honesty and Strong Morals - We believe honesty and strong morals are important to build trust and maintain positive relationships. We try to always do the right thing. We speak up if an item was left off a bill, we receive too much change, and if we find money, we return it. When we make a mistake at work, home or in the community, we apologize and fix it. We know everyone makes mistakes and needs second chances. Letting our child hear us apologize and admit to our own mistakes will teach our child it's okay for them to make mistakes. We will create opportunities for honest and responsible behavior by assigning age appropriate chores like picking up their toys and books and by rewarding their follow-through.



Courage to Fail - We think it is important to take some measured risks in life in order to live life to the fullest. We also believe it's equally important to know it's okay to fail at something. At a turning point in our life we decided to move from our hometown. We didn't know where we wanted to go, but we developed criteria for our new town; within 8 hour drive, the school system was hiring, and had easy access to specific stores like Best Buy and Game Stop. It became an adventure. We found a few cities meeting the criteria and took off to visit each location. As soon as we arrived in the city we now call home, we fell in love with all it offered and knew it was the right place for us. We moved and were fortunate to find great and rewarding jobs. While this is a bit of an extreme example, we will encourage our child to take risks and teach them it's okay to fail. If our child participates in extracurricular activities and misses a soccer goal, falls during a dance recital, or doesn't come in first, we will remind him/her it's okay to get it wrong. All we ask is he/sher learns from the experience and moves forward.



Curiosity - We believe curiosity leads to a love of learning and the development of critical thinking skills. We like to explore unique cities, visit new places, try a variety of restaurants, and seek new experiences. If we have questions, we research the answer. We will encourage and feed our child's natural curiosity by supporting his/her interests and introducing him/her to a vast number of experiences. We will visit New York to see the hustle and bustle of a big city, collect shells and play in the water at Ocean City, hike mountains, and experience farm life at my mom's farm. If our child likes animals we will visit the zoo and the aquarium. Space? We will go to the planetarium and visit the Air and Space Museum. History? Perfect, we are surrounded by history and will go to Colonial Williamsburg and Gettysburg to name a few.

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

Our home...

We love our home and where we live. It's truly a reflection of who we are, how we live, and the environment we want for our child. The neighborhood is quiet, yet close to so much. Kids freely play soccer, football and lacrosse in the yards and ride their bikes in the street. It's the kind of neighborhood where you can walk to the grocery store, to school and to close-by parks. And, there are many! There are parks where our child will climb, swing and slide, others where he/she will take swim lessons or play on a sports team, and still others where our family will hike. All within walking distance.

Just outside our immediate neighborhood is the downtown area filled with family-friendly shops owned by local entrepreneurs. Kids play with toys at the toy shop, and tinker with crafts at the art store. A kids chalk drawing contest is the highlight of the Art Festival. A little bit further out is one of our favorite places to visit, Catoctin Mountain Park. It's a beautiful mountainous area you can spend an entire day or just go for a hike. There is a lake where we swim and a beach area to play, as well as walking around peaceful waterfalls. We are close enough to Ocean City to spend the weekend on the beach. We play miniature golf, do silly stuff on the boardwalk like eat French fries and play skeet ball at the arcade.

Just as our neighborhood is perfect for our family, so is our home! It's a very warm and cozy environment with an open floor plan, soft comfortable furniture, and a 'come in and put your feet up' feeling. Pillows and blankets anchor chairs and couches and family pictures and art created by family fill the walls. Hilliary's favorite place is the den, curled up on the couch with a good book. In this room, there is also an old bookshelf built by Hilliary's great grandfather and an electric piano we can't wait to hear our child play. We jokingly call our basement "Jasonville" because that is where we keep almost everything "Jason." It is decorated with framed Simpson's posters and where Jason keeps and plays his vast collection of video games. In both of our favorite spaces, there is plenty of room for our child to play and discover.

The nursery is ready for our child! The walls are painted soft yellow and a large tree decal is surrounded by animals. Our child's name will be spelled out over their dresser. Growing up Hilliary always wanted a window seat. Since the nursery had a perfect spot for one, we built one for our child. It's the perfect place to snuggle up with a blanket made by our child's grandmother or play with toys. We look forward to cuddling in the rocking chair to read a bed time story each night.

There are so many things we look forward to sharing and experiencing with our child; cuddling, bonding time, curling up on the couch in the living room with a blanket and a book, and playing together as a family. We look forward to teaching our child the ABC's and watching him or her discover new things. We look forward to sharing the first Christmas at home, watching the twinkle in his/her eyes as he/she opens their first gift. We look forward to going to the park and sliding down the slide together, splashing in the pool, and kicking a ball. Ultimately, we look forward to sharing everything with our child!



- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

I enjoy reading, cooking, gardening, going to movies, yoga, being outdoors, hiking, spending time at the beach, trying new restaurants, traveling, spending time with family and friends

Adoptive Father:

I enjoy all things golf (miniature, Frisbee, regular golf), playing video and board games, science experiments, hiking, going to movies, juggling, traveling, spending time with family and friends

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Quality Assurance Coordinator

Adoptive Father: Software Consultant

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree



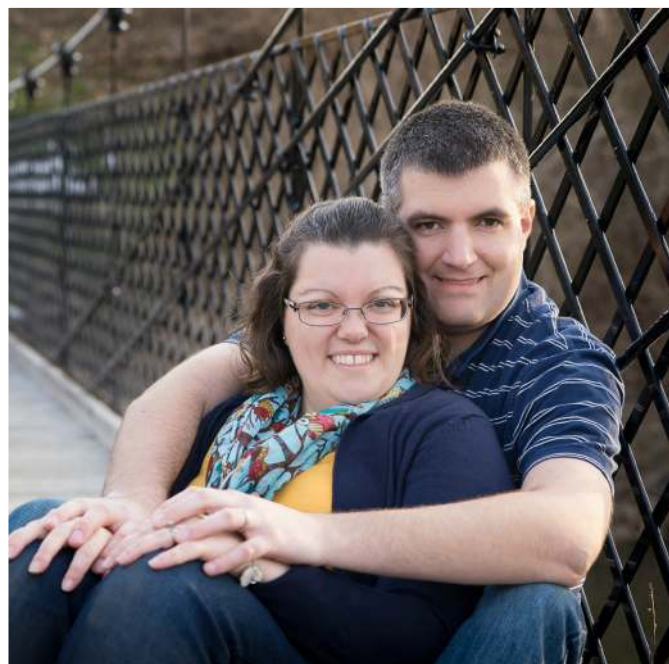
We focus on what matters to make every adoption a beautiful experience.

Our family...

Jason and I met in college through a mutual friend. We like to joke that we met because of his love for video games. I was looking for a date for a college event at Dave and Busters and he was looking for an opportunity to go. We had a fun evening of dinner and playing video games with friends. We have been together ever since. We dated for three years when Jason proposed over a homemade dinner, and have been married 10 wonderful years.

We are best friends and are more in love now than we were the day we married. Having gone through so much together our bond is even stronger. Jason's optimism, kindness and easy going personality continues to provide ongoing strength for our family while my silliness and resolve keep us moving forward. As a couple we balance each other well. Our greatest strength is our teamwork and our ability to solve problems together.

We still have so much fun together! We enjoy playing mini golf and frisbee golf, go to movies, take day trips to Washington DC, walk at nearby parks and love sight seeing in the greater Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia area. We also like to go to Ocean City for a weekend. We have played almost every mini golf course there!



We really value quality time together. At home we like to play board games (Sorry, Candy Land, Checkers, and Base 10 are some of our favorites), and cook dinner together. At Christmas we exchange ornaments instead of gifts. The ornaments tend to reflect an adventure or a trip we took together. We also plan a special evening together instead of exchanging gifts. We look at it as giving each other our time which is better than any tangible gift we could give. Of course we will give our child gifts for Christmas. We can't wait to plan activities together and experience the holidays through the eyes of our child.

We also look forward to sharing one of Jason's favorite childhood memories. On his birthday his dad created a path with string all around the house to Jason's birthday presents. He would find all his presents by following the string. This is one of his fondest memories growing up and it made his birthday a lot of fun. We look forward to creating this little adventure for our child as well.

Sharing our current family traditions, as well as creating new ones, is important to us. We want our child to have a treasure trove of wonderful childhood memories. We look forward to experiences such as vacations with our extended family to destinations like Maine, Rehoboth Beach, and Oglebay Park; visiting Hilliary's mom and sister at our family farm where Hilliary's mom raises cows, chickens, turkeys, and bees for honey; spending time with my sister mushroom hunting, creating art and everything "nature;" and road trips to visit family in Ohio, Chicago, IL, and Florida. We can't wait for our child to participate in our family "kids night" on Christmas Eve when we spend the evening eating pizza and playing board games with aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents.

We are so excited to love and support our child, to make him/her the center of our life. Yet, it's not just us. Our child will be surrounded by cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and our friends who will share their life and love with our child.



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