

Hello we are...
Ken & Sara



Graceful
adoptionsTM



Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our hopes and dreams are to expand our family by giving a child a secure home full of possibilities, love, laughter, and happiness.

We met on a blind date more than eight years ago and then married two years later. We are best friends and soul mates. We are on an amazing journey, we enjoy life, and laugh often. We are committed to each other, have similar values, and share common goals of having a loving family life.

We have always known we wanted to expand our family, however, we have been unable to carry a baby to term. After a couple miscarriages and losing our daughter at 20 weeks, we knew adoption was the right path for us. I had no idea my curiosity and interest in adoption so many years ago, was a hint about my future. We have a large and loving support network, all waiting to nurture another family member. We look forward to everything a child brings, especially watching them grow and use their imagination. We have so much love and laughter to share!

We are sure this is a very personal and challenging decision for you. We want you to be comfortable with your decision, have the freedom to explore your own dreams, and have the relationship with us and your child you hope for. We promise to always lovingly care for your child emotionally and financially and to encourage him/her to achieve their own goals.

Thank you for getting to know us a little better, we look forward to getting to know you too.

Sincerely,

Ken & Sara


Graceful
adoptions™

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...



Family - The relationships with our family members have made us who we are today. Ken and his grandpa were very close growing up and has wonderful memories of cutting the grass at his grandpa's church together. Ken enjoys taking care of our yard and believes it was this time with his grandpa that gave him the love for yard work and the outdoors. We look forward to our child having a special relationship with his/her grandparents and to always carry the lessons and memories as our child gets older. We can't wait for our child to develop deep and lasting relationships with their cousins just as we have, making memories by simply hanging out or getting into trouble together at family celebrations.



Compassion - We both grew up understanding and living by the Golden Rule to treat others as we would like to be treated. When we were younger we shared our toys and were taught to always be kind to other children. The way this is demonstrated in our life hasn't changed all that much, we share what we have and are kind and considerate to others. Our friends and family always know they can count on us. We help others move, help remodel and finish projects at their homes, and we watch their pets when needed. We will teach our child to always treat others as they would like to be treated by sharing their own toys, being kind, and by demonstrating understanding, empathy, and fairness to all those we encounter.



Be Yourself - We believe society is built by many different individuals and everyone should celebrate who they are. Our parents and teachers taught us to think about what was right for ourselves and to be confident in our decisions. We were taught to be proud of who we are and don't be bullied to be someone we aren't. In school, Ken loved soccer and enjoyed being part of a church youth group. Sara enjoyed band. We weren't pressured to be in activities we weren't interested in and we found life-long friends. We will provide our child the confidence and reassurance to be themselves and provide them the freedom to enjoy activities they choose so they may grow into the person they hope to be.

Education - We believe children are very curious about the world around them from a very early age and it is never too early to learn the ABCs, numbers, and good manners. We feel it is important for children to be surrounded by books so they can learn to read and let their imaginations soar. We believe education provides opportunities and helps a person achieve their goals. We both earned bachelor's degrees which have allowed us to work in careers we enjoy and provide stable incomes to support our family. Sara loves to read and can't wait to explore the world of books with our child. From an early age we will count our child's fingers and toes as we kiss them, sing the ABCs as we change their diapers, provide a well-rounded education, and will help our child set and reach any goals they dream.



Enjoy Life - We think it's important to enjoy life! It is easy to get caught up in everything there is to do at work and home. Taking time for ourselves to laugh, smile, and relax is critical for our mental and physical health. We believe these breaks are needed regularly within the course of our daily lives and to refresh ourselves. We attend local festivals, exercise, read, play with our dogs, and regularly vacation. Besides creating lasting memories with our family and friends, one of the best parts of vacation is when we lose track of time. We look forward to enjoying life and building sand castles with our child on the sandy shores of a beach somewhere.

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Our home...

We live in a diverse neighborhood where we feel safe and everyone is friendly. The children in the neighborhood play in each other's backyards and ride bikes together. It will be a great place to raise a child! There are always family activities to enjoy and parks to visit. We live near a science center, historical society, library, many aquatic centers, and amusement parks. We also live in an area where there are food, art and music festivals and many sports and entertainment venues. We look forward to enjoying all the parks and family activities with our child.

We love our outdoor space! We have a big fenced in backyard with a lot of green space for running around and a future swing set. We love to play outdoor games, such as Bean Bag Toss. We have a deck with a grill and enjoy having friends and family over, it's the perfect place to simply hang out and enjoy the outdoors.

Our house is meant to be lived in and is very open and relaxing. One of our favorite memories is of the day we got the keys to our house. Our families and friends all came over to help us move in. We laughed and ate pizza while making our house a home. It was a day we all gathered to celebrate together. Friends and family know they are always welcome; they can literally put their feet up and help themselves to anything in the kitchen. We usually gather in the living room and kitchen, or play games around the dinner table. Our dinner table is a favorite gathering spot that has been passed down through generations in Sara's family.

Our favorite meal together is spaghetti. It was one of the first meals we made together when we started dating, yet we still try to make the sauce a little different each time. We enjoy dinner together and the opportunity for family time. We are excited for our child to sit at the dinner table every night, even for them to throw their spaghetti. He/she will be the center of our family!

We are excited to have our home and lives filled with a child. We look forward to bonding, making new memories, and cherishing fun activities together. Both of our companies provide parental leave so we will have a lot of time to bond. Sara loves to read and can't wait to read to our child and Ken loves to work outside so he can't wait to enjoy the outdoors with our child. We look forward to watching him/her grow and use their imagination. We look forward to our child playing with their cousins in the backyard, splashing at the pool, and seeing the animals at the zoo.

We are very excited to finish decorating the nursery. We can't wait to pick out the perfect theme and have had so much fun thinking of different ideas. It is painted a very calm color and has pieces of furniture and art given to him/her from our family members. We hope there will be some treasured item in their room from your family as well! We are excited to finish decorating his/her room. Their own safe and comfortable place, surrounded by loving family and friends.

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Reading, taking walks, volunteering, watching new and old movies, spending time with family and friends, local adventures, shopping, going to the zoo

Adoptive Father:

DIY projects, working in the yard, playing and watching soccer, watching other sports, volunteering, neighborhood association board member, taking walks, spending time with family and friends, local adventures

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Mortgage Claims Analyst 2

Adoptive Father: Senior New Business Analyst

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree



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Our family...

We met through mutual friends on a blind date more than eight years ago. We went to dinner and a soccer game with the friends that set us up. Ken loves soccer and he enjoyed explaining the game to Sara. We are both shy when we first meet people so I'm sure it was funny to see us interact. It was good the other couple knew us so well so they could help us get past some awkward bits of silence. By the end of the night, we were all talking and laughing about different stories from our pasts.

We dated two years before we got married. Ken made big plans for his proposal, however, the challenge of keeping a secret from Sara was too great and he proposed the night he picked up the ring. Ken was so sweet and nervous, it was the perfect night at home with just the two of us.

Ken is a very giving individual. He is very patient, hardworking, and always lends a hand to someone who needs help. Sara is kind and is very empathetic. As a couple we are accepting and calm in any situation. We do not judge others because you never know their story. We are best friends and love spending time together, no matter what we are doing, we have fun. We enjoy a variety of activities together, such as attending festivals, farmer's markets, car shows, and performing arts like plays and concerts. We also enjoy quiet time hiking the trails near our home and walking our dogs. Ken is super funny. He's quiet so you don't usually expect it, but he has amazing timing with jokes. Sara laughs so hard it's infectious!



We have an amazing family! Our marriage has brought two families together, our mothers have even become friends. We vacation together, spend holidays together, and enjoy getting together for no reason at all. One of our favorite vacations together is renting houses on a lake. We boat, play with the little cousins on the beach, fish, and just relax, there is something for everyone! Easter, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Thanksgiving are all holidays we spend together eating, laughing and playing games. We can't wait to share all these holidays and family time with our child, especially searching for candy during Easter egg hunts and pulling our child in a wagon in the Fourth of July parades!

We have several special traditions around Christmas time. Ken and I like to celebrate with just the two of us before the large family gathering. We enjoy an evening together, having dinner and opening our gifts to each other. This allows us to slow down and remember the true meaning of Christmas before we get caught up in what can be a "crazy" time. We look forward to sharing our quiet family Christmas time with our child, and then joining the larger, more boisterous, family celebration! You see, one of the reasons it's so crazy is because our family celebrates an old German tradition, the Christmas Pickle. We hide pickle ornaments on the tree and around the house in random spots. Everyone gets a chance to find them, the lucky few get an extra present! In our family this present is usually a board, card or dice game such as Farkle or Five Crowns. We love to play board and card games! You can usually find us crammed around a table, everyone participating!

If you select us as the adoptive parents for your child, we promise his/her life will be filled with love and laughter, not only from us, but from our families as well.



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