

Hello we are...

Maureen & Nick



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Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our dream has always been to have a family complete with a child we adore and the support system of our family and friends to celebrate with and rely upon. We are so incredibly fortunate to have many of these already, and we hope every day a child will be part of our reality.

We have always planned to have children and look forward to being a bigger family. We love our life and are proud of everything we've accomplished, yet we know that piece is missing. We can't wait for books and toys strewn all over the house, dinner time silliness, and little hands "helping" in the garden. In the future, we look forward to having teenagers eating us out of house and home. We have created our home with the hope that a child will experience laughter and joy being together as a family.

Maureen knew from a young age that adoption was her plan should there be any trouble with infertility. A year or two into our marriage, we decided it was time to try to start our family, but we weren't able to conceive. We eventually enlisted the help of specialists and Maureen was able to get pregnant using IVF. However, our daughter was born too prematurely and didn't survive. After more IVF cycles, disappointments, and losses, we knew without a doubt it was a sign that it was time to take another path to grow our family.

We know that we could have continued down the IVF path, but we have always known that unconditional love and families don't depend on genetics. From the moment we decided that adoption was the way we would grow our family, we haven't hesitated or looked back. We will provide a child with all of the love anyone could ever have for another person, and dream of guiding him or her through life and watching them blossom into happy, healthy, well-adjusted, and successful adults.

It's difficult for us to understand all of the feelings, thoughts, and hard decisions that come with your decision. The amount of strength, courage, determination, and love for your child is humbling. We have the utmost respect for you and hope you feel peace with your decision. We intend to make sure your child is raised always knowing how much you love them, and we promise to provide the love, stability, support, and life experiences every child needs and deserves.

Respectfully,

Maureen & Nick



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

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Our values and beliefs as parents...

Lifelong Education and Learning - We were both raised in environments valuing education and life lessons; we were expected to do our best in school, even if it didn't result in perfect scores. We believe that it's the effort and desire to learn that's more important than the grade obtained, and we hope that by providing support and encouragement during the school years we can foster a hunger for learning long past graduation. We know that we will be our child's primary educators, and that responsibility will be lifelong. Even today we look to our own parents who continue to teach us new things and encourage us to further our knowledge on any topics that interest us.

Family - Nick grew up surrounded by extended family, and some of his most cherished memories are of him spending nearly every day after school with his grandparents. He had many cousins as playmates and his family is always having gatherings to celebrate different occasions. We want the same for our child. Both of us have close-knit families, and we all get together often to celebrate birthdays and holidays, but we also like to get together "just because" throughout the year. We look forward to having our children grow up in a home full of love and closeness, as well as growing up together with their extended family.

Friendship - We believe friends are the family you choose. We have incredibly supportive friends, most have been friends for most of our lives. Maureen has a large group of high school friends she still gets together with regularly. We have gatherings just for us girls as well as those times we include the whole family. The family events are a large group now with all of the spouses and children! Nick's closest friends are from elementary school, and while they're not geographically close anymore, they still communicate often. We also have good friends we've made through work and our other activities. We hope to demonstrate to our children it doesn't matter how many friends you have, what matters is that you are there for each other.

Humility - We believe it is important for people to be humble and to learn to put the needs of other people before themselves. As we've grown older, we've come to realize that the kindest and most amazing family members, friends, and colleagues in our lives always seem to be the most humble. We also believe being humble garners respect from other people. We will teach our children that life is not a competition, there always will be someone with a bigger, better "thing" - a bigger house, a newer car, or better electronic gadget. What matters is that we know that happiness comes from inside, and that it is always important to love, support, and respect one another.

Volunteering - We believe giving back to the community is one of the most important things a person can do to make a difference in the lives of others. From a young age, we both were encouraged to volunteer as our parents did in their churches and community. Nick did yard work for elderly neighbors and volunteered at the Salvation Army when he was younger. Maureen helped teach Sunday school and vacation Bible school and volunteered at an animal shelter in high school. As adults, we continue to volunteer our time and talents. Nick volunteers for Math Counts and for middle school robotics competitions. Maureen volunteers for a camp for teenagers with medical needs and donates crocheted hats to a local charity supporting premature babies. We look forward to discovering our child's interests so he or she can find a way to give to others and pay it forward.



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- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Reading, crocheting, volunteering, beekeeping, gardening, fishing, camping, traveling, hiking, antiquing, entertaining, shopping, spending time with friends and family

Adoptive Father:

Golfing, fishing, camping, home improvement, beekeeping, traveling, gardening, volunteering, cooking, hiking, drawing, woodworking, spending time with friends and family

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Registered Nurse/
IT Educator

Adoptive Father: Geotechnical Engineer

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree

Our home...

We live in the country and built our home in anticipation of having a big happy family someday. We will always treasure the experience of selecting the location, designing our house, and contributing to the construction of our home. It was a big leap of faith for us to move to the country as neither of us grew up in a rural area. Fortunately, we fell in love with it and are so glad we did it! We love living in the country and can't wait to share it with our child, just as we've shared it with each other and our friends and family. We think it will provide a great opportunity for our kids to observe and learn about nature and look forward to making memories here for the next 30 or 40 years.

We've gotten to know most of the neighbors well, and we watch out for each other and help each other when needed. There is a large park, a splash pad, and a library close by. The park is within walking distance and has a lake where we like to fish, playgrounds for running and climbing, and a beach that we look forward to enjoying with our child. Two larger cities nearby offer children's museums, indoor play areas, parks, and much more. We will add a swing set/jungle gym in the back yard in the future as well.

We enjoy our time at home, working on projects around the house or outside, beekeeping, gardening, hiking, and relaxing together. We spend many evenings on the front porch or back patio grilling, relaxing, talking, and observing all of the wildlife around us. We love nothing more than to get up early and sit out on the front porch in our rocking chair together while we drink coffee and listen to the countryside wake up for the day. We frequently go on walks through the woods with our dogs. At night, the only sounds you can hear are those made by nature and you can see thousands of stars in the sky.

We have a strong appreciation for nature, and our style and home reflect that pretty well. Our view out the back of our house is breathtaking, and all of the bedrooms and the living room are oriented to enjoy that view! We have many talented and creative family members, so nearly all of the artwork displayed in our house was created by us and our family. We enjoy items and furniture that come with some history, so you'll find furniture pieces passed down from prior generations throughout our home next to the newer pieces we've picked out.

We are centrally located in relation to our family and many friends, so we often host get-togethers. We especially love doing this when the weather is nice, as we have lots of outdoor space for grilling, lawn games, running around, and relaxing! During the colder months, you'll find us playing cards or board games at the kitchen table, gathered in the living room around the fireplace, or cooking, and chatting in the kitchen.

We look forward to a bigger family. We have always known we wanted children and, while we love our life and are proud of everything we've accomplished, we know that pieces of us are missing. We can't wait for books and toys strewn all over the house, dinner time silliness, and little hands "helping" in the garden. We're ready to have our world centered around our child.



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Our family...

We met our freshman year of high school, became good friends our senior year, and went to prom together as friends. We finally shared our first kiss during spring break of our first year of college, the rest is history! We dated six years before getting married more than eight years ago.

Nick proposed to Maureen during a quiet night where he cooked dinner and let her pick the movie of the evening. It was sweet and perfect, and a fond memory held by both of us. With our long history together, we love to look back at photos of us from 10 or 15 years ago and talk about then versus now - it's amazing to think about all of the life we've already lived together.

We both grew up in Christian households and attended Christian elementary and high schools. We grew up with strong foundations in Christianity, and although we do not regularly attend church, we both know that Christian values have shaped us throughout our lives. We treat others with kindness, love, and forgiveness.

Our greatest strength as a couple is our ability to set goals together and work to obtain them. Nick's greatest strength is his ability to analyze a situation using a combination of logic and "gut feelings." He is very good at taking a step back, looking at all of the facts, and going through possible outcomes before coming to a conclusion or decision. Maureen's greatest strength is her compassion and empathy for others. She genuinely cares about others' well-being, and does her best to see a situation from the other point of view.



Most of our family lives close by so we are lucky to see them regularly. We love that we will provide such close family relationships for our child. Nick loves that he grew up with much of his family close by! Every year, Nick's extended family meet at a family farm to spend a long weekend camping, fishing, hiking, kayaking, reminiscing, and generally having a great time together. The farm is filled with tents, campers, dogs, children, laughter, and food!

We enjoy hosting a 4th of July party for both sides of our family. It's a time for everyone to bring their kids and pets and have a fun time enjoying the summer weather. The party concludes with a neighborhood fireworks show. We also vacation with our families, including short weekend trips as well as more adventurous trips to Florida, Nashville, and Pennsylvania. We can't wait to include our child in this family tradition!

Everyone is so excited about our adoption and the opportunity to welcome another child into our families! They have been helping us prepare our house for a baby, buying toys, furniture, and supplies to make sure we're ready for a baby when the time comes. They have been so supportive throughout these many years of trying, wishing, and hoping to start our family. They've been there to hold us up during the hardest of times and to celebrate with us during the exciting times. We can't wait to become parents to a precious little one.



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