

Hello we are...

*Kevin & Amie*



*Graceful*  
**adoptions**<sup>TM</sup>



## Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our hopes and dreams are to lead happy and healthy lives, making the most of the gifts God has given us. We wish to leave a positive impact on the world and those we encounter, particularly the next generation. We are excited to welcome another child into our home and our hearts, and look forward to the close-knit family we will raise.

We were fortunate to begin that dream more than three years ago when we adopted our daughter. We have been overcome with how one little person can bring so much love. Family is very important to us, and we are excited to further grow our family.

We will offer a child a nurturing and loving environment full of opportunities so they can utilize the talents they've been given or want to develop. This includes a stable home life full of love, compassion, education, and world experiences. We will give our children the confidence to know they can do whatever they set their minds to, while still providing a sense of humility and gratitude. We hope to provide a multitude of fun memories and daily laughter and silliness. Most of all we want our children to know that they can always count on our love and support, and that they have so very many people who love and cherish them.

We look forward to kissing little feet during diaper changes, playing airplane with a spoon during feedings, and rocking a child to sleep each night. We can't wait to read bedtime stories and snuggle, field questions of why and how, and hang artwork on the refrigerator. We think about the day he or she will ride their bike for the first time and take pride in their school work; share in our sense of humor and be excited for a surprise family vacation. We smile when we envision the changes a house takes on, with little jackets and shoes in the mudroom and toys sprinkling the family room. We look forward to seeing how this child will grow and develop over time - witnessing the impact of the little things we teach along the way developing as they become young adults. We welcome the chatter and sounds of excitement while they are playing. We are very excited to teach our children about so many things and can't wait to see what he or she will teach us. Most of all we look forward to all of the love that this child will add to our lives.

For the mother who selects us to parent her child, we hope you have peace of mind in your decision and know your child will have every opportunity at a successful life, both in childhood and beyond. We will do our best every day to show our children unconditional love.

We hope you will know the gratitude and the admiration we have for the brave and selfless decision you have made, and how much we care for you and have prayed for you. We hope you have happiness and accomplish everything you aspire to in your life.

Blessings,

*Kevin & Amie*

  
Graceful  
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## Our values and beliefs as parents...



**Faith** - We both grew up with a strong background in our faith and it's a large part of who we are and the life we lead. We try to live out our faith in the way we treat others and how we conduct ourselves. We pray daily, both individually and together, and seek God's guidance through our journey of life. We also attend weekly church services, are active in our parish community, and volunteer in the community. We participate in charitable events and fundraisers to benefit inner-city children and those with special needs. We feel it's important for our children to know that you're never alone with God in your life, and there's nothing you can't handle with Him on your side. Our children will come to church with us and we will encourage them to get involved in the church and the community as they get older.



**Family** - We are a close-knit family and spend a great deal of time with our loved ones. Our siblings are our best friends, and some of our favorite childhood memories are of times we were together; summer vacations, riding bikes around the neighborhood, building snowman and sledding down hills, and sleepovers in each other's rooms. We hope our children will have the same close relationships we have had and will create their own fun memories together. Our families are so excited to have another child to love, to provide support and watch our family grow. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins all look forward to spending time with this child - outings to the zoo, making and eating cookies, trips to parks, and wagon rides are all activities they enjoy. With our close-knit family, our children will grow up knowing that family extends beyond the walls of our own house, and is a wide web of support they can always count on.



**Education** - We've been fortunate to be raised in homes that emphasize the importance of education. We believe that education does not stop after graduation; it is a lifelong process. We believe in always putting forth the best effort - you don't have to be a genius, but try your best and work to improve. Our nearby high school has a 100% graduation rate, and 99% of students attend post-secondary education. Our children will have the opportunity and preparedness for a post-high-school education, as far as they want to go. They will also be raised to value different types of learning and education—formal and informal that can take many shapes and forms. We also believe that as parents, we will be the primary educators and teachers to our children and do not take this responsibility lightly.



**Kindness and Compassion** - We have both been raised with the gift of appreciating kindness. We believe that it takes very little to be a kind person, but the effect it can have is enormous. One of our core philosophies of parenting is to teach our children genuine kindness and compassion toward others. This includes people they are close to and see every day, as well as people they will only meet for a brief moment. This means encouraging an older person to go before you in the check-out lane, holding a door open so they may pass through first, pulling an item from a shelf just out of reach, helping strangers carry a heavy bag, and giving belongings to people in need rather than selling them. We believe that kindness and compassion toward others is something that is not only lacking in our world today, but is also undervalued. We try to remember the old adage that "someone is always fighting a harder battle than you" and treat others that way - with compassion and kindness.

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

# Our home...



- Both non-smokers

## Hobbies:

### Adoptive Mother:

Spending time with family and friends, playing with our daughter, going for walks, golfing, home improvement projects, listening to music, reading, outdoor activities, watching sporting events

### Adoptive Father:

Spending time with family and friends, playing with our daughter, playing sand volleyball, golfing, playing cards, attending college sporting events, going for walks

## Professions:

**Adoptive Mother:** Pediatric Physical Therapist

**Adoptive Father:** Chief Financial Officer

## Education Level:

**Adoptive Mother:** Doctoral Degree

**Adoptive Father:** Bachelor's Degree

We live on a very quiet street without any through-traffic. Our house sits on a corner of a cul-de-sac that is bustling with kids of all ages. It is common to see children riding their bikes together and playing in their yards. Some of the younger kids set up a lemonade stand in the summer; we are their top customers. Our neighbors take pride in their houses and yards and look out for each other, even shoveling each other's snow. We love that there are two parks within close walking distance, one of which is just a block away. We both spent countless hours playing outside when we were kids, and our children will have the same opportunity for outside play.

This is the house that we intend to stay in for the next 30+ years and look forward to so many memories to come. We have a large yard on a corner lot with plenty of space for children to play. The backyard is fenced in and we have a sandbox as well as a large swing set with a climbing wall, trapeze bar, slide and several different swings including a tire swing. We have two small gardens where we grow vegetables in the summer and a small patch of blueberries and raspberries. We are excited for the day when we can pick tomatoes and berries with more little hands to help.

Amie works part-time and enjoys her days home with our daughter. We make a big breakfast of French toast, scrambled eggs, and fruit, and participate in Storytime at the library, gymnastics classes and open gym, go for walks to the park, draw with sidewalk chalk, and visit Kevin for lunch. We also have regular play dates and go exploring with cousins. We are so excited to share our days and our adventures with another child. We anticipate the children reading together, running through the park holding hands, pushing each other on the swings, and outlining each other with sidewalk chalk. Kevin is an incredible father and enjoys time with our daughter. They pick fruit and vegetables from the garden, read books, and dance to music (Frank Sinatra is a favorite). He looks forward to sharing this time with another child, holding a child in each arm as they dance to the rhythm of the music.

The nursery is almost ready. It is next to our room, across from his or her sister's room. The walls are painted a light neutral grey so we can easily add gender-specific accents. We have a crib, dresser/changing table, and a rocking chair. The quilt Kevin's mom made special for her grandchild hangs on the crib.

Believe it or not we look forward to 2am feedings, waking up earlier to get a little one ready for the day. We look forward to baby snuggles and all the firsts. We look forward to watching her or him develop and seeing changes every single day. We look forward to the sounds of our children playing in our home as new memories are made.



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# Our family...

We met when Amie went out with her sister and brother-in-law one night when they were meeting up with some old friends from college. Kevin and Amie's brother-in-law were friends in college. We hit it off and spent a large part of the night talking and getting to know each other. A few weeks later we had our first date. As we shared stories we learned that our paths had crossed more than once over the previous years, including Kevin being a guest at Amie's sister's wedding. We often look back at this and use it as a reminder of the importance of timing.

We dated for two and a half years before we married. Kevin proposed on a random Tuesday after we walked to a local ice cream parlor on a warm night in early fall. He told Amie all the reasons that he loved her and their relationship together and why he wanted to marry her. It was the perfect night for Amie who had always envisioned a spontaneous, low-key, and personal proposal.

We are positive-minded people who try to see the good in every person and every situation. We have found that times of adversity have helped shaped us as individuals and as a couple. We have used difficult times to deepen our faith and spiritual relationships. These times have also strengthened our marriage and drew us closer together. We learn there are things we can control and things we can't, and it's important to roll wherever life leads you with a positive outlook for whatever lies ahead.

Our family will always come first and be the focus of our lives. Just as timing was important when we started dating, God had the perfect timing for our first adoption. Our daughter, Kayla, is every bit her mother - strong and beautiful, and has brought so much joy to our lives. Kevin is an involved father and cherishes his time with Kayla. For family fun we spend time painting and coloring, making crafts, reading, swimming, roasting s'mores, fishing, going on wagon rides, visiting the local farmer's market, zoo, and science center, and playing with cousins. We look forward to adding another child to our family fun!

We feel incredibly privileged to have such a huge support system in our families. We believe it is pretty remarkable that both of our parents have been married for over 40 years. Kevin and his brothers like to attend sporting events and take trips together. Amie's sisters are all very close and consider each other best friends. We both love the unique and special bond that siblings share and look forward to watching the relationship between our children grow.

We have eight nieces and nephews all around the same age. They have brought such an entertaining and fun dynamic to our families. Of course, we are together for birthdays, holidays and other special occasions. A favorite is Easter. The day before, Amie's mom has all the grandchildren over to dye eggs and have a big Easter egg hunt. Kevin's extended family has been gathering every couple of years at a Minnesota lake, enjoying catching sunfish off the dock, making campfire s'mores, driving a golf cart with grandpa, and playing spontaneous games of Bingo!

We all can't wait for another child to join our family and to see how much more our love will grow.



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