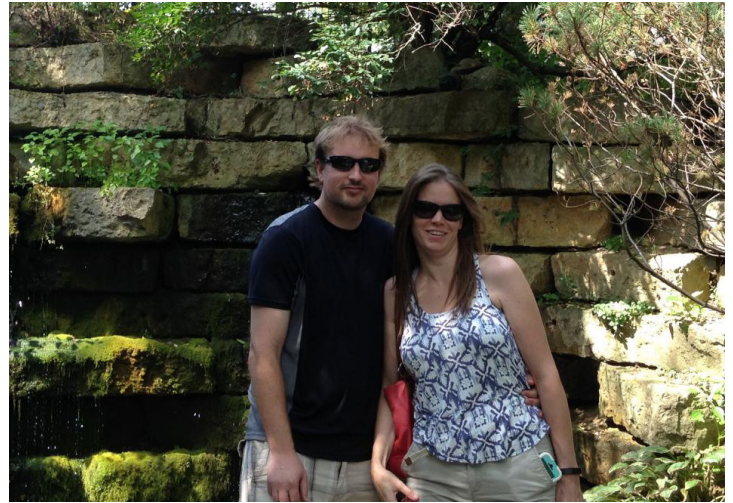


Hello we are...

Stephanie & Ryan



Graceful
adoptions™



Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our hope is to start a family and to share our love, life, and experiences with a child. We will provide any and all support to be the best parents possible.

Stephanie and her sister, Kimberly, were adopted by their parents. When we discovered we had infertility issues and were at a point when we needed to make a decision between surgery or adoption, we easily decided to adopt. We anticipate this shared experience will create a natural and beautiful relationship between your child and Stephanie, Aunt Kimberly and Stephanie's parents.

Stephanie will be a stay-at-home mother and Ryan will be an involved father, always there to take care of your child's every want or need. We both grew up with involved parents who made their children a priority. We had wonderful experiences playing outside, participating in extracurricular activities, family vacations, and special traditions around each of the holidays. We look forward to creating cherished moments for and with your child.

If you select us to raise your child, we hope you will stay in contact with us so that you will see how much love and support your child is receiving. We hope this knowledge will provide you peace in your decision.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us a little better and reviewing our profile. We hope to have the opportunity to get to know you as well.

Warmest Wishes,

Stephanie & Ryan


Graceful
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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 - Family comes first. We both grew up in families that taught us the importance of taking care of your family and valuing those relationships. We spent quality time together - sharing meals, vacationing, and attending church. They encouraged each child to pursue their interests while valuing the family as a unit. Because of their support and guidance, we had amazing childhoods and still cherish our relationships with our families. We want the same for your child; for him or her to feel they are part of a family unit, valued, and truly enjoy their childhood surrounded by a network of support. Stephanie will be a stay at home mom, taking care of our family while Ryan financially supports the family.



Honesty - Being honest with yourself and others helps build self-confidence and strengthens relationships with those who we regularly interact. Honesty is the basis of life and something that can never be taken away. We will always be honest with your child in an age-appropriate manner, and as good role models, always demonstrate honesty with those we interact. Sometimes it may seem like telling a 'white lie' is easier than telling the truth. We will show our child there is a better way. If/when honesty is not demonstrated, we will encourage honesty by giving opportunities to make different choices and tell the truth.



Acceptance - Acceptance is being open to new ideas, people, places and things without judgement. Ryan went overseas after college and toured Japan. He found out many things about himself and other cultures. One of the main things that he got from that is that everyone is different and depending on how you look at things you can come to see different perspectives. We will teach our child to see people and life events from different perspectives with the hope of living a life of acceptance. These lessons start early by sharing toys with friends, inviting all classmates to their birthday party, and learning to stick up for the underdog.



Generosity - We believe that it's important to put others before ourselves and if we give our time and/or money to help those less fortunate, our life will be more fulfilling. Our parents were actively involved in their church and community and encouraged us to give back and help others when needed. We have many generous friends and family that have helped us, and we have helped them. We have been very blessed in our lives and will share these blessings with a child.

We will show your child how generosity works and how acts of giving helps all those impacted. We will participate in toy drives, donate gently used items to Goodwill, and continue to help those less fortunate.

Enjoyment - We think having fun is required to live a full and happy life. When we were growing up, we spent time with family and friends riding bikes, playing in the park, participated in sports and other organizations, and traveled to special vacation spots. All these activities helped us feel fulfilled, gain independence, and explore our sense of adventure. Taking chances and trying new things is still something we do. We want your child to experience the same joy and discover their sense of adventure and confidence. We will play outside, discover new parks, take weekend excursions, and help your child try new activities so they can learn their strengths and what they like.

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



Our home...

We believe a home is what we make it, and we want our home to be a place where we spend time with loved ones making great memories.

We have a large yard, about one acre, for running around, playing, and hitting and kicking balls. We look forward to shooting hoops or playing H-O-R-S-E and Around the World as a family. The park is a perfect place for us to enjoy the kids' playground equipment, build sandcastles at the beach, and learn to play tennis and volleyball. The park is the focal place of our neighborhood and where we find most of the other children playing.



We enjoy spending time outside. We grill out, eat meals on our deck, and roast marshmallows for s'mores around our fire-pit. We have a wrap-around deck with a seating area and a hammock, and a patio with a hot tub. These are natural gathering places when family and friends come to visit.

If we are inside, we usually gather in the kitchen which opens to the living room with its comfortable sectional couch. Sometimes a group will gather around the family table to play board games.

Currently, our favorite time of the day is in the evening when it's not too hot and we sit outside or take the dog, Jake, for a walk. We often make dinner together, enjoying the cooking process and working side-by-side. Although any meal Stephanie makes is delicious, we particularly like taco night or when Ryan grills - anything. We imagine this routine changing to our child helping measure and stir ingredients and our walk turning into a trip to the park. We anticipate our favorite time of day will become Saturday mornings when we know we get to spend quality time together in our PJs, making a big breakfast of pancakes, eggs and bacon, and curled up reading books as a family.

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Reading, working with crafts, walking, traveling, outdoors, baking, playing board and video games with Ryan, playing with our dog Jake, watching college and professional baseball and football, weekend road trips, boating, and helping the local ski team

Adoptive Father:

Playing basketball, anything outdoors, playing video games, walking, fishing, board games, playing with our dog Jake, traveling, watching movies, working on home improvement projects, helping the local ski team, and watching college and professional baseball and football.

Professions:

Adoptive Mother:

Adoptive Father: Account Solutions Leader

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree

Stephanie will be a stay-at-home mother; thus, the child will be the center of her attention. She looks forward to discovering the world again through the child's eyes, experiencing firsts, and watching the changes that occur while growing up. Stephanie looks forward to seeing them interact with things around the house and teaching them about nature as there are many animals that visit our property, including deer. Most of all, we look forward to seeing them smile and laugh and becoming an honest and upstanding person.

Our child's room is almost ready, adding finishing touches once we get to know our child. We have a couple of pieces that were passed down from grandparents including a small crib that was made by Stephanie's uncle that is used to hold many different stuffed animals as well as a blanket made by a grandparent.

We are very thankful for everything we have had in our lives and know these will turn into amazing memories with our child.



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Our family...

We met through mutual friends when we worked together, and were friends for a couple years before we began dating. We dated about a year before we got married. Ryan proposed during the winter, right before going to see his parents. Our dog Jake was involved with the proposal. Private and personal. It was perfect.

Stephanie is supportive, loving, creative and organized. Ryan is kind, understanding, patient, and hardworking. As a couple, we communicate well, work together, complement each other and are dedicated to our marriage and to our families. We've had more than six amazing years together and look forward to many more.

We have a lot of fun, having "date night" at least once a week. We enjoy a bit of competition, like bowling or playing miniature golf, and weekend getaways to visit zoos in places such as Madison and the Wisconsin Dells. We particularly enjoy anything outside, i.e., sporting events, going for walks, and spending time at the lake. We are part of a water ski show team that performs in the local area, putting on shows for sometimes thousands of people.

Both of our parents have been married for more than 40 years, serving as incredible role models. Our childhoods were very similar and we value the memories we brought into adulthood and our close relationship now. We both grew up in close knit Christian homes, going to church as a family. We both were the oldest sibling and our parents always made time for us and our activities. We were involved in extracurricular activities such as sports, enjoyed the freedom of playing outside with our friends going swimming and riding bikes. We look forward to our child having adventures, pursuing their interests, and having us there to support our child through it all.

We grew up having close relationships with our extended families, and still do today. We spend time together often and celebrate holidays together as well. We see Stephanie's family often as they are just minutes from our house. They also own a boat where we meet for dinner and a cruise along the river. We usually spend Fourth of July celebrating the holiday and watching the fireworks from their boat. In the fall, there is a baking day when all of the females in cfamily get together to make cookies and other sweets, sharing recipes for the holidays.

Our extended family likes to go on vacations, we went to Florida with everyone and the next year went to a lake and resort area. In addition, we have parties at least once a year when everyone gets together. We can't wait to bring our child with us to see new places and try new things.

We will continue celebrating life together and will add our child's birthday, having our extended family to our home to celebrate. We believe our child will have a special relationship with Stephanie, as well as grandparents since they are adoptive parents themselves. Our families are very happy, look forward to another member joining our fun, and creating a lifetime of memories with cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents. Our friends and family are excited to meet, love, and support our child with us.



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