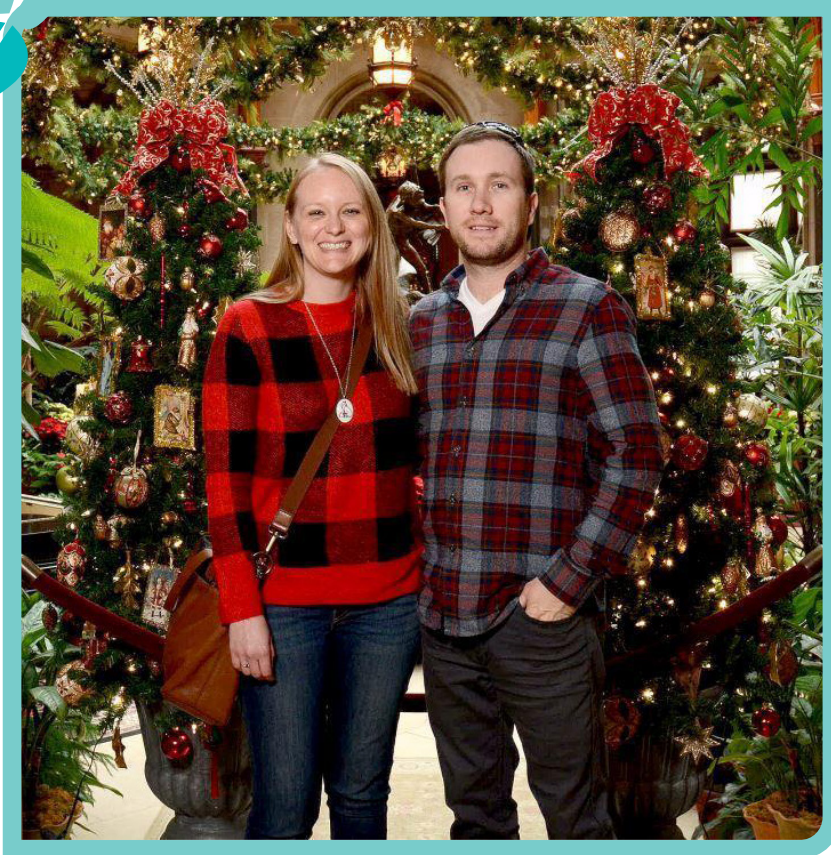


Hello We Are...



Erin & Conner

Graceful 
Adoptions™



Our Hopes & Dreams

We dream of having a fun, loving and warm family life. We dream of adopting and sharing our love with a child for the rest of our lives.

From early on in our relationship we knew that we wanted to have children. Erin yearned to be a mother and care for a child. Conner hoped to be a father and pass down lessons and wisdom to help our child throughout life. We dreamed of our future family and talked about how we would parent and activities we would do as a family.

After we married in 2008, we began trying to have a baby. A few years later when an infertility diagnosis came and treatments failed we were devastated. Together, we decided to end our quest to have biological children. We grieved our loss, but still wanted to have a child more than anything.

Over time, we began reading books, watching adoption videos and talking to friends who had adopted. It was freeing and it immediately led us to feeling ready to adopt. It's an amazing thing, to be on the same page as your partner. We were both ready at the same time to start the adoption journey.

Our hearts were overjoyed at the thought of being parents. We glowed with the idea of bringing a child into our family, of how loved and cherished that child would be by us, their grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. The more we researched the more we learned about the beauty of adoption and of how it unites two families in the interest of and for the love of a child.

If you select us to parent your child, he/she will know every day that they are loved and valued - unconditionally. He/she will feel safe and supported throughout their life. Our home is fun and filled with laughter. Your child will have happy memories of laughing, playing with us, and having fun. We will help your child discover their love and passions. Whether it's reading, art, sports, music, etc, we will help him/her explore their interests and support them as they learn and practice. We will be their safe place and biggest cheerleaders.

For you, we want you to be happy, safe, and healthy. We want you to feel at peace with your decision and for you to thrive in your life. We hope you will continue to work towards your goals and achieve them. We want you to be happy and fulfilled in your life.

Sincerely,

Erin & Conner

Graceful 
Adoptions™

A Beautiful Experience

YourPartner@GracefulAdoptions.com | GracefulAdoptions.com



Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

KINDNESS - We believe that kindness is the way forward. It helps create and maintain good relationships at home, school, and work. We show kindness by holding the door open for people, paying for the order of the next person in line at the drive-thru, sending thank you notes, writing positive reviews for local businesses, donating to charities like Save the Children, and donating food or other needed items to the animal shelter. We will teach our child to be kind by teaching them to say "please and thank you," having them choose items to donate to the animal shelter, volunteering together as a family, and helping others in small ways.



LIFELONG LEARNING - Erin has a degree in Education and Conner is continuing his education online working on his bachelor's degree. We have the MasterClass program, have a subscription to CuriosityStream, take in-person classes, and read books to expand our knowledge. We've taken courses on cooking, writing, computers, history, wine, glass blowing, and yoga. We also visit museums, aquariums and botanical gardens. We'll read, play games, and teach our child shapes, colors, letters, and numbers. We will help them with their homework and class projects. We will enroll him/her in classes and activities that they're interested in like art, writing, sports or musical instruments to ensure they explore all their interests.



HUMOR AND FUN - We like to laugh and have fun. We tell stories, joke around, watch funny TV shows like "Nailed It!" and "Bob's Burgers." We play with our dogs, and play video and board games. Erin gets very competitive even though Conner wins most games. We listen to music, dance, and sing along to the Hamilton soundtrack while we're making dinner or doing chores around the house. When an obstacle arises we try to see the humor in it. Once we are parents, we will keep a good sense of humor and a fun house. We'll share funny toys, books, and shows with them. We'll encourage their silly side by making funny faces or noises, playing hide and seek, playing dress-up, and teaching them funny rhymes.



EMPATHY - It is important to place yourself in someone else's position and try to think about how they are feeling. Empathy is the only way past division. We practice empathy by listening to others, asking people questions about themselves, putting down our phones when we talk to people, and imagining other points of view. Reading a book from a character's point of view is a great way to practice seeing how someone else thinks. This is one way we plan to share empathy with our child. We will also ask questions like, "What do you think he/she was feeling?" We will encourage our child to share and give to others who may be less fortunate.

HEALTHY HABITS - We believe in living a healthy life - this means food and exercise, as well as taking care of our environment. We want to be healthy and fit parents throughout our child's life so as they grow we can keep up with them in daily life and play. We believe in recycling, reducing our waste, using eco-friendly appliances, and reducing packaging. We participate in roadside clean-up days and use reusable mugs for take-out coffee. We make choices each day that will reduce our impact on the earth. We'll share these healthy habits with our child by introducing them to a variety of healthy foods, being an active family together, encourage sports, and teaching them ways to care for our planet.

A Beautiful Experience





Our Home

Our neighborhood is very friendly and quiet. We feel very lucky to live in a neighborhood with such kind and caring people. We know that if we need help we can knock on any of our neighbors' doors and they would lend a hand. The children play together a lot. One neighbor has a large inflatable water slide with a pool at the end where the kids gather to splash and go up and down the slide. The children play together and often ride their bikes and scooters up and down the cul-de-sac.

We live close to the Gulf of Mexico, so we take trips to the beach or go fishing often. There's a library within walking distance to our home, and our city has a few parks and a splash park. There are also ball fields for the local little league teams and many museums in a nearby city.

Our home is comfortable, fun and warm - reflecting our personalities and our life. Everywhere you look in our home there are stories of our lives and things that fill the rooms with love and happiness like pictures, figurines, stuffed animals, magnets, books, items made by or passed down through our families. A strawberry cookie jar, for example, was Erin's grandmother's. Erin has eaten cookies out of it for as long as she can remember. Her grandmother gave it to us when we moved into our first home. Adirondack chairs made by Erin's grandfather sit on our covered patio where we sit to watch our dogs play in the backyard or by the smoker and our outdoor fireplace where we sit and talk while Conner smokes brisket or chicken.

Erin works from home and will stay at home with our child. She enjoys cooking dinner and we sit at the dinner table together every night. We enjoy baked chicken, roasted vegetables, pizza, pasta dishes, and homemade bread. When friends join us we usually play a board game or video game. We enjoy playing Telestrations, Settlers of Catan, Civilization, and Apples to Apples with everyone sitting around the dining table. We also like to play Mario Kart or Mario Party on the Nintendo Switch. This past Christmas we had a really fun Mario Kart tournament with Erin's parents. We will make dinner the gathering time for our family as well.

Our home is fun and we look forward to hearing our child's laughter fill the house. We look forward to feeding, bathing, cuddling, and rocking our child to sleep. We will be the type of parents that get down on the floor to play and interact. We will read together regularly, play with blocks and puzzles, ride bikes, and take walks as a family. We look forward to play dates with friends and large family gatherings to celebrate birthdays. We look forward to guiding them through life and enjoying watching them grow up.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Reading, writing, cooking, yoga, listening to podcasts, jigsaw puzzles, loose leaf tea, gardening, board games, tv & movies, video games, British history, collecting and shopping for books, home decor, antique stores, shopping, traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Adoptive Father: Beer & wine making, wood-working, playing video games, barbecuing, exercising, working with computers, coding, American history, comic books, movies, gardening, board games, baking bread, traveling and spending time with family and friends.

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Customer Service/Social Media

Adoptive Father: Boatswain's Mate in United States Coast Guard

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Associate's Degree

PLUS:

- Family dogs
- Both non-smokers



A Beautiful Experience



Our Family

Erin's parents met, fell in love, and were engaged six weeks later. More than 35 years later, they are still married. Erin would ask 'how they knew they were the one' after such a short time. Erin never understood her dad's answer, "you know when you know." Years later, she would understand...

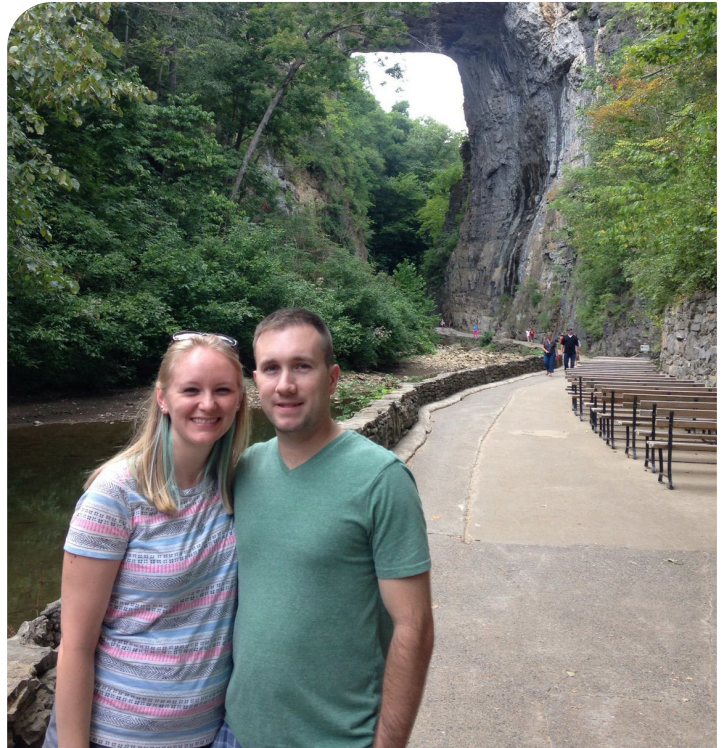
We met during Erin's sophomore year of college. Conner was in the Coast Guard when one of Erin's friends came to visit her boyfriend stationed with Conner. When Erin's friend returned to school and told Erin she HAD to meet this guy, Erin dismissed the suggestion since he lived six hours away. Erin was in college in Ohio and was not planning to date someone who lived in Michigan. Erin's friend forgot to mention that she had already given him her instant message screen name. After a couple chats, came the phone calls. After the phone calls, came a visit. By the time the three-day visit was over, Erin had fallen in love.

We were in a long distance relationship three years before getting married. While there were times when the distance was challenging, it also helped us build a solid foundation where communication became the cement that held us together. We've been married 12 years and are still each other's best friend.

Conner has a very positive attitude. He is kind, fair, and has a great sense of humor. Erin is devoted to her family, caring, loving, and considerate. She's very empathetic and is often thinking about how other people are feeling and how she can help. We always operate as a team. We make plans together and work together to get things done. We enjoy going out to eat, watching movies, and going to antique stores and used book sales. Erin collects books, so she'll slowly pore over title after title while Conner walks ahead bringing books to her that he knows she's looking for. We play video games like World of Warcraft or Animal Crossing, have movie nights, and watch series like Game of Thrones together. We also enjoy taking walks, lifting weights, and doing yoga together.

For us, the time we spend with our families is about quality. A few years ago Erin's family started wearing matching pajamas on Christmas, so we've all worn those pajamas the last couple of years. Conner's family has a tradition of going to see a movie on Christmas Eve. This is from when he and his brothers were little, their Dad would take them to a movie on Christmas Eve so their Mom could wrap presents. When it's time to decorate the house we put on Christmas records that we've collected and dance to Christmas music while we put up the tree and other decorations. Erin did this with her family as a kid and we look forward to continuing that tradition with our child. We've taken a few trips with Erin's parents to the Smoky Mountains and Natural Bridge, hiking to a few waterfalls and exploring nearby caverns. Conner's parents have a home in Myrtle Beach so we spent a week there, going to the beach and local attractions.

Our parents, siblings, aunts and uncles, cousins, and friends are all enthusiastic and supportive. They are all looking forward to enthusiastically welcoming a new family member. We can't wait to introduce our child to all of our loved ones. They will be so loved and cherished by our family and friends.



A Beautiful Experience

YourPartner@GracefulAdoptions.com | GracefulAdoptions.com

