



A.J. & MORGAN

DEAR BIRTH MOTHER,

First, we'd like to thank you for considering adoption. We understand this period in your life may be difficult and even scary, that you may feel both sad and happy at the same time. Your emotions are ones we may never fully understand, but we want to work together in planning a future for all of us. We want to help you feel comfortable in your decision and hopefully ease any stress you are experiencing. Your decision is important and so many questions may be swirling: Is this the right decision? How will this impact another family? What type of relationship will I have with an adoptive family? Please know that we welcome this journey with open arms and are excited to bring an adopted infant into our home.

We are A.J., 37, and Morgan, 35. Recently, in our adoption training seminar, we had the opportunity to hear a birthmother tell her story. She was in a room full of strangers who were eagerly listening to each step of her decision-making process. Though it was not easy, we were thrilled to hear that, several years after her daughter was placed with an adoptive family, everyone was doing great; this was music to our ears! It was fascinating to hear her perspective, and we have so much respect for her decision.

We have always envisioned being parents. Our family plan has guided us to the path of adoption, and we are thrilled. We know we will be overjoyed when we welcome an infant into our family, and we are looking forward to being completely open with our child about the adoption and the wonderful birth mother who made everything possible. We are excited to begin this parenting adventure, starting with learning more about you and your hopes and dreams for your child.

*Sincerely,
A.J. & Morgan*

OUR JOURNEY

Finding each other. You know how they say you will find true love when you least expect it? Well, that is our story. We were attending a mutual friend's summer engagement party without realizing we even had a mutual friend until that evening. We were introduced to one another at the party and then went without seeing each other for five months until we met again at a holiday party for this same mutual friend. Since that night, we have been inseparable. When you know, you know!

Married. After six months of dating, we decided to move in with one another. It was a hot summer and we had a lot of stuff that needed to be moved. Life was going great. We were engaged in our careers, we adopted a puppy – our labradoodle named Toby – and we completed some home renovations together. Then came the excitement surrounding our engagement. The proposal happened on March 22, 2013, at our home, a big and wonderful surprise. For us, this date is significant as it represents the date A.J. was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes 20 years earlier as a young child, and which he currently manages very well. There was so much to celebrate and to plan for in the next stage of our journey. The wedding took place May 17, 2014. It was the most wonderful day – a celebration to be marrying your best friend! Soon after the wedding, we took a relaxing honeymoon out of the country for the first time together. When we returned home, we were ready to move into the next phase of our married life and relationship.

Our life now. Back from our honeymoon, we decided to focus on natural family planning. There were some bumps along the way in our efforts and we sought support from both medical professionals and our families. We learned we would be unable to conceive a child. We took the news in, digested it and discussed what it really meant and how we could find a way to solve the problem and overcome it, since becoming parents is what we always wanted and planned for in our lives.

Our friends and family tend to call us “the givers.” We give time to a cause and purpose, we put our full hearts into whatever we are doing, and we help out whenever we can. We learned our purpose and the reason we were put together on this earth: it is to adopt and give our hearts to a child.



We felt destined to be together right from the beginning.

ADVENTURES!

Oh the places you will go! Our journey together has taken us to a lot of fun and special places. Growing up, we both had family spring-break vacation traditions – A.J.'s family to Siesta Key, Florida, and Morgan's family to Disney World. As we began dating, we incorporated both family trips into our spring travel plans, since both hold special memories for us and our families. We hope to continue this spring-break travel tradition with our own family someday.

We are adventure-seekers of sorts. We both enjoy Nashville – the sights, sounds, country music, and the best BBQ in the world. Hiking the mountains and deserts of Arizona gives us a thrill out west, and we enjoy the Cleveland Indians spring training there as well. For us, there is nothing more exciting than knowing the start of the baseball season is right around corner. On the east coast, we enjoy the fast-paced hustle and bustle of New York City and Boston. Taking a slower approach to our adventures, we wind down with beach time in Savannah, Georgia; Newport, Rhode Island; and Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

The joy of travel is a part of life we most definitely want to share with our child. One day we would love to watch the excitement in our child's eyes when they see the tree light up in Rockefeller Center. We can't wait to see how our little one will react to their toes in the sand for the first time!

Closer to home, we love to spend time at the lake, kayaking, paddle boarding, boating, and simply relaxing. The serenity of the water gives us peace.

And... as they say, there is no place like home. We also love to return to the familiarity of our town surrounded with family and friends.



Celebrating the joys of a family wedding



Family picture at our favorite park

FAMILY & COMMUNITY

We are extremely blessed to have both sides of our family living close to us. At the furthest, our families are about 20 minutes away, which is great if we ever need them. Most of our siblings are even closer than that. On Sundays, we almost always fulfill a family tradition of meal night, at our place or at the home of another family member. We feel it is an important time to be together and sharing dinner this way sets a positive tone for the week.

Staying close and connected as a family means the world to us. Family is our solid foundation for establishing values, creating morals and learning how to express respect.

We are grateful and feel fortunate for the life we have been provided as a married couple, as it has afforded us the opportunity to give back to many organizations in our area. Some of these are: Locks of Love, Cleveland Clinic Children's Foundation, The Hunger Network, and Prayers from Maria. We are passionate about philanthropy, and we hope to teach our child how giving back means opening up your heart for others.



We love time on the water!



Our HHI travels



Kayaking is great exercise.



Cheering on the Tribe!

OUR PROMISE

We promise to love this child with all of our hearts. We respect your decision and will respect our bundle of joy. We want to bring an infant into our home so that we may nurture them and give them the best life possible, teaching them our values and making memories together as a family.

Each person makes their own journey and path, and we feel confident we can provide the tools that direct a child to a thriving and successful life. We will give them a sense of security in our family and in our home. We look forward to watching our child grow and blossom as we build our family unit.

As the birthmother, this infant will grow in your tummy for nine months, and during that time, we will be focusing on the tremendous love we have in our hearts for them. We look forward to collaborating with you in this relationship and can't wait to meet our child!



We are Godparents.



Skiing in the Winter



A special bond with Grandma



Sunday funday at the ballpark



Toby dressed up for July 4th



Two hearts become one



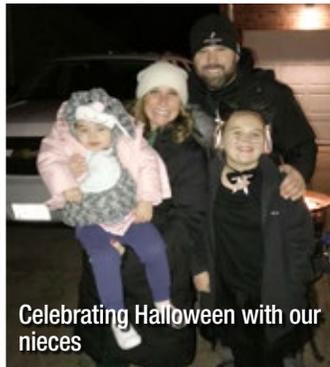
Our home is definitely sweet!



Hiking in Acadia National Park



Adventures in our hometown



Celebrating Halloween with our nieces



We are blessed and grateful.

THANK YOU.

We appreciate you taking the time to learn our story, and we look forward to undertaking this journey together with you. We cannot wait to meet our child and bring them into our home and family. What joy and fulfillment! We have the support of our family and friends, and we are ready to move forward with adoption.



For more information about our family, please contact Adoption by Gentle Care at (800) 824-9633.