



*Hello!*

We are Shannon and Evan, and we are excited to introduce ourselves to you and share as much as we can about our life together. We are looking forward to building our family through adoption and we thank you so much for taking the time to consider us as loving parents for your child.



# Dear Birth Parents,

Although we have not met, we want you to know that you already have a very special place in our hearts and we admire your courage and strength. We cannot begin to imagine how difficult this decision-making process regarding adoption is for you. We truly hope that you find the answers and comfort that you deserve.

To you we make this promise; we will provide a lifetime of love, happiness, adventures and support. Your child will be in a safe environment and have the best education possible. We both grew up in families with strong values. Our families are a part of our lives every day, and we will be there as parents throughout all stages of your child's life. Adopting a baby is just the beginning of creating a family for all of our years to come.

Your child will grow up knowing their adoption story. Adopting is something that we are proud of and they will be, too. We will help them discover their natural interests and strengths. We embrace all aspects of an open adoption, knowing that openness comes in many different forms. We promise to be supportive of your hopes and wishes.

## Shannon & Evan



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

We met in 2013 and we knew on our first date that something special was happening. Neither of us ever went out with anyone else again! We were married by Shannon's stepfather in 2015 in a small lake side ceremony surrounded by just family.



# Shannon

agent for Olympic figure skaters, and then went on to tour North America with Broadway shows for five years as a personal assistant. I now work for a steel company as a personal assistant to the owners, as well as manage all of the charity work and associate activities for the company. I have always loved my jobs because they have never felt like work- just fun! I volunteer often for local organizations, mostly for children with special needs. I love to cook and am really looking forward to trying my hand at baby food.

**Evan on Shannon:** I tell Shannon all the time that, "I'm the luckiest man on the planet," because I am. She is my anchor, and I know she will be wonderful as a mom. She is always putting others first, she is an excellent cook and an even better friend. I'm proud to call her my wife.

**Evan in his own words:** Hello! I am 39 and was born and raised in Pittsburgh. I have a twin brother, a sister, and five nieces who I have so much fun with. I am an avid sports fan and grew up swimming, playing golf, tennis,

baseball, football and hockey. I still play ice hockey every week. I graduated from Baldwin Wallace University with degrees in Business and Sport Management. I've lived in many places around the country for work including

Alaska, Florida and Texas. I most recently was the Game Director for the Cavs from 2012-2016 which was an amazing and memorable job. After 14-years in sports marketing, I began working for Shannon's family's business in 2016 which has provided the support and schedule that I have always wanted. I LOVE Ohio, and I'm excited to raise a family with my loving wife here.

**Shannon on Evan:** People often refer to Evan as their "favorite" and I do too! He is always willing to help others, is kind to people, and loves animals. He is great at landscaping and cooking breakfast. My favorite thing about Evan is his devotion and loyalty to me- I know that it will shine through even more once we become a family.

**Shannon in her own words:** Hi there! I am 40 years young, I have a brother Matt and a sister Bethanne. I also have a stepsister named Alisa who has three young children who cannot wait to be cousins! My memories of growing up are very positive. I grew up on a bit

of land without close neighbors so it was all about family time. Apple picking, riding the lawn mower, hiking, sledding, jumping in leaves... my dad was amazing at creating a fun, imaginative

world for us and I plan to do the same for our child. I graduated with a BA in Communications from Cleveland State University. I worked as a sports

## Favorites

**Hobbies:** Cooking, couponing, taking walks

**Music:** Coldplay, Dave Matthews Band, Taylor Swift

**Food:** Anything in a crock pot, ice cream

**Activity:** Volunteering



# Evan

# Family Life

**Our Big, Fun Family.** Our extended families will be a very big part of our child's life. Shannon's mom and stepfather live five minutes away. We spend lots of time on weekends at their house, especially in the summer at the pool cooking out. There is always laughter and lots of conversations going on! Evan's mom lives close by and we often have Sunday dinner at her house outside by the lake. Shannon's siblings are in the same city, too. "Fun" Uncle Matt always has us cracking up, and her sister Bethanne's husband is from France. They speak French at home and we plan for them to speak the language to our child to help teach a second language early in life. Evan's twin brother has four daughters who love to swim, horseback ride and play outside- we can't wait to add one to the squad!



Shannon's family at a wedding in Colorado



Evan and his mom



Aunt Shannon



Evan's nieces



Evan with his twin brother and dad



Shannon's stepfather marrying us in 2015



Uncle Evan might be having more fun than his nieces!



Shannon with her sisters

**Family Traditions.** Our favorite holiday is definitely Thanksgiving. We love being with family, eating lots of food, the Macy's Day Parade on TV and football. We host Christmas Eve at our house for both sides of the family. We put up a big tree, make dinner, play games and do a fun gift exchange. Birthdays are also a big deal around here, no matter what age. Everyone gets a party with a cake, even our dog, Ziggy! We generally don't give "things" as gifts, we like to give "experiences". We think that memories of a show, sports game or cooking class are much more fun than a new pair of socks!



Evan and his niece enjoying some ice cream



Evan and his sister at a local fair



Ziggy's Birthday Paw-ty



Shannon and her mom



Our nephew loves Ziggy!

**Meet Ziggy!** We adopted our sweet Ziggy in April of 2017. She has been such a blessing and is always right by our side. We are often told that she should be a therapy dog because of her positive, calming effect on people.

# Our Adventures

The child that comes into our life will have a passport at a young age! Between the two of us we have been to 48 states and 21 countries. We know firsthand that the experiences of seeing new places and meeting new people are life changing and invaluable. We have a vacation home near Disney World, friends in Canada, and family in France, all with open doors for us. Other activities that we look forward to doing as a family are attending professional sporting events, going to concerts in local parks, attending children's shows and plays, and spending relaxing time on our boat that we keep on a lake close to home.



Touring Italy



Up close and personal on a safari tour



Exploring sand dunes



Captain Evan



Evan loves to golf!



White water rafting in Canada



National Park Adventures



Shannon volunteering at a preschool Halloween party

# Our Home

We live in a suburb 20 minutes away from a major city. Our neighborhood has unique charming homes, sidewalks, parks, lakes, trails, and schools within walking distance. We enjoy living in this environment while also being close to all that the city has to offer.



# Our Promise

We promise to be the best parents possible. To us, this means teaching by example honorable morals and values to help empower a child to be a successful, kind person. We will show them much of what the world has to offer and support the decisions that they make for themselves as they grow. We are incredibly excited to begin this adventure and meet the child that will make us a family.



Disney World