



THE BICKEL FAMILY



*about us*

*family*

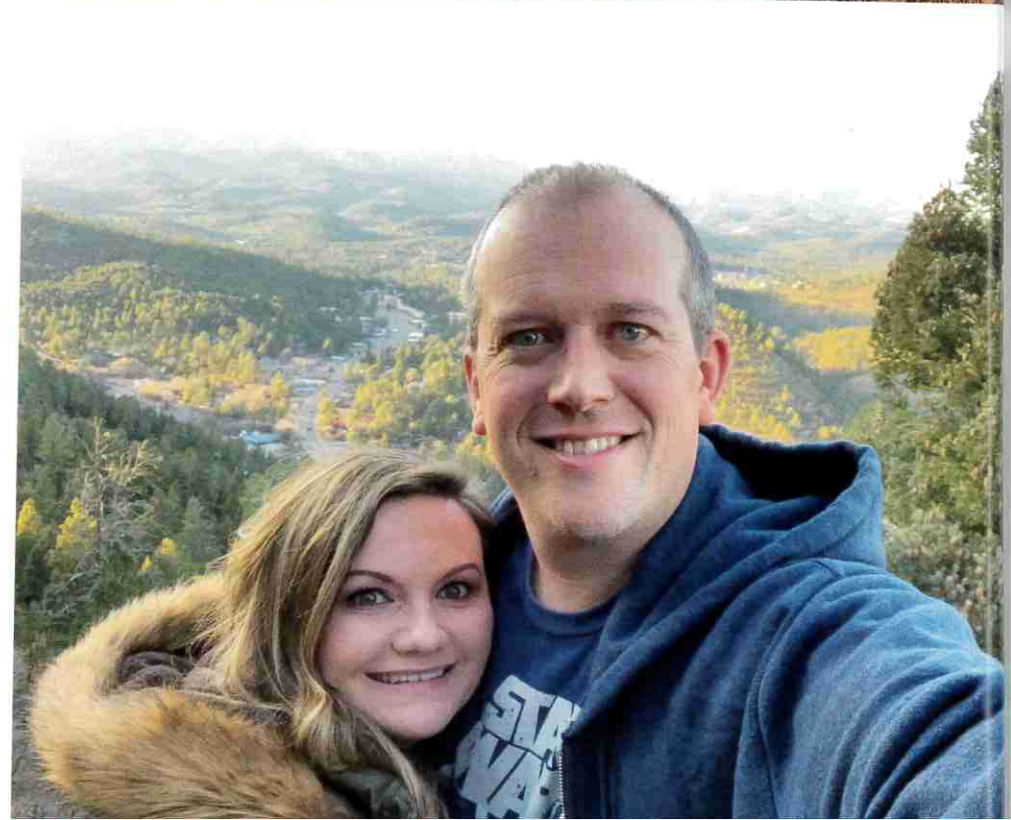
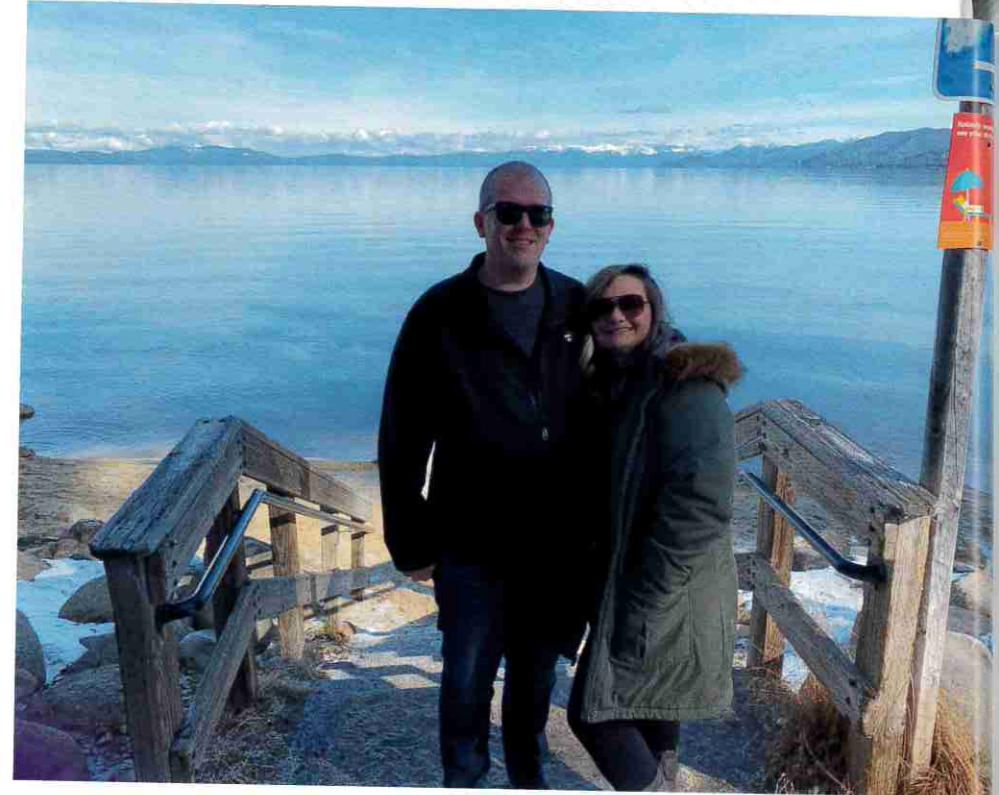


DEAR EXPECTANT PARENTS,

Hello,

We are Kevin, Michelle, and Madison. We thank you for taking the time to learn more about our family. We are so excited to be adopting and bringing another child into our family! We hope our story will help you in making your choice. We hope this book gives you a glimpse at our family. We look forward to meeting you.





# *about us*

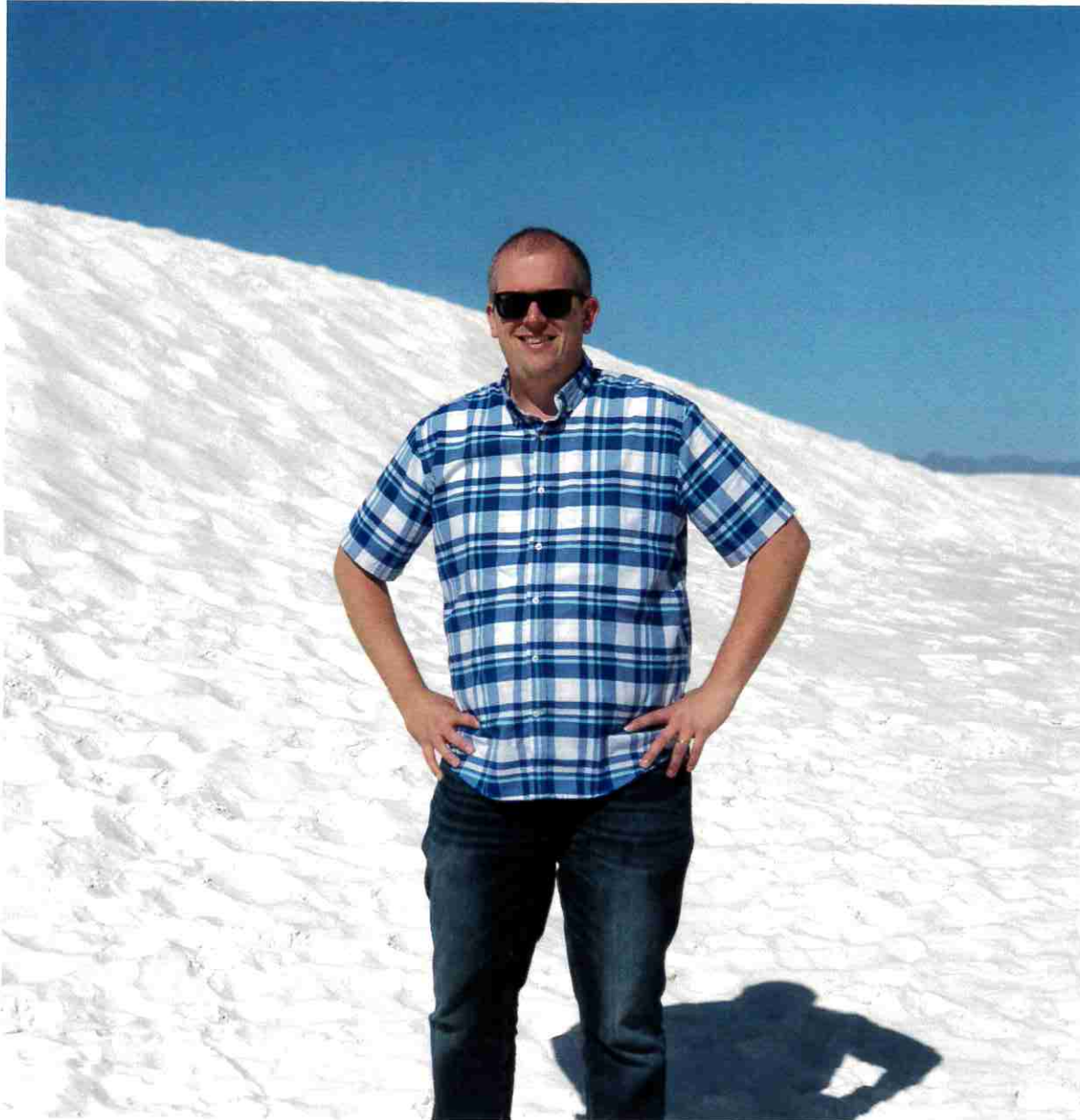
## HOW WE MET

Let us start by telling you a little about ourselves. Kevin is 40 years old and Michelle is 37. We were initially brought together because we had mutual friends. We also worked for the same company, and eventually became great friends. We started dating shortly after, and became closer and closer. We were married in July of 2002 and have now been happily married for over 19 years. We both believe marriage is built on love, trust, and good communication. We are great friends and do almost everything together.

In 2012, we experienced one of the happiest times of our lives, our daughter Madison was born. We are so grateful that her birth mother chose us, and helped us start our family. We immediately bonded and have experienced many happy and sweet moments. She has brought us so much joy and love to our family, and we can't imagine life without her. It seems like yesterday when we brought her home from the hospital.



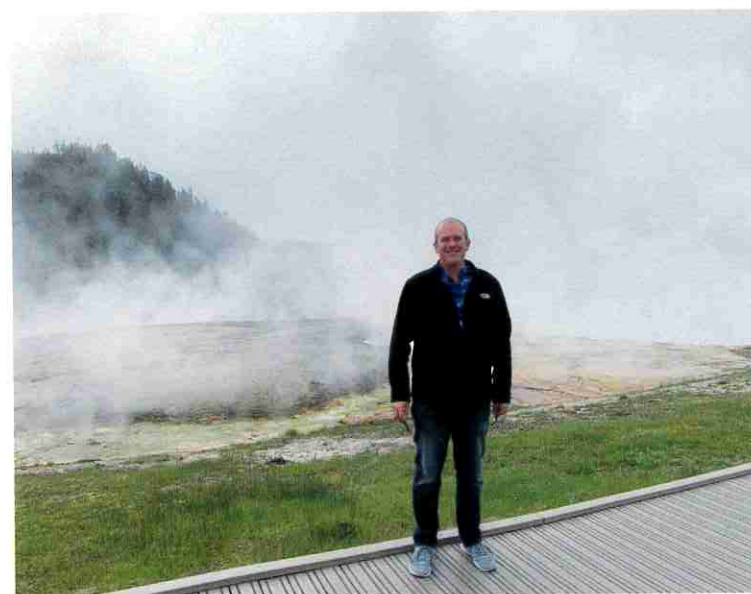
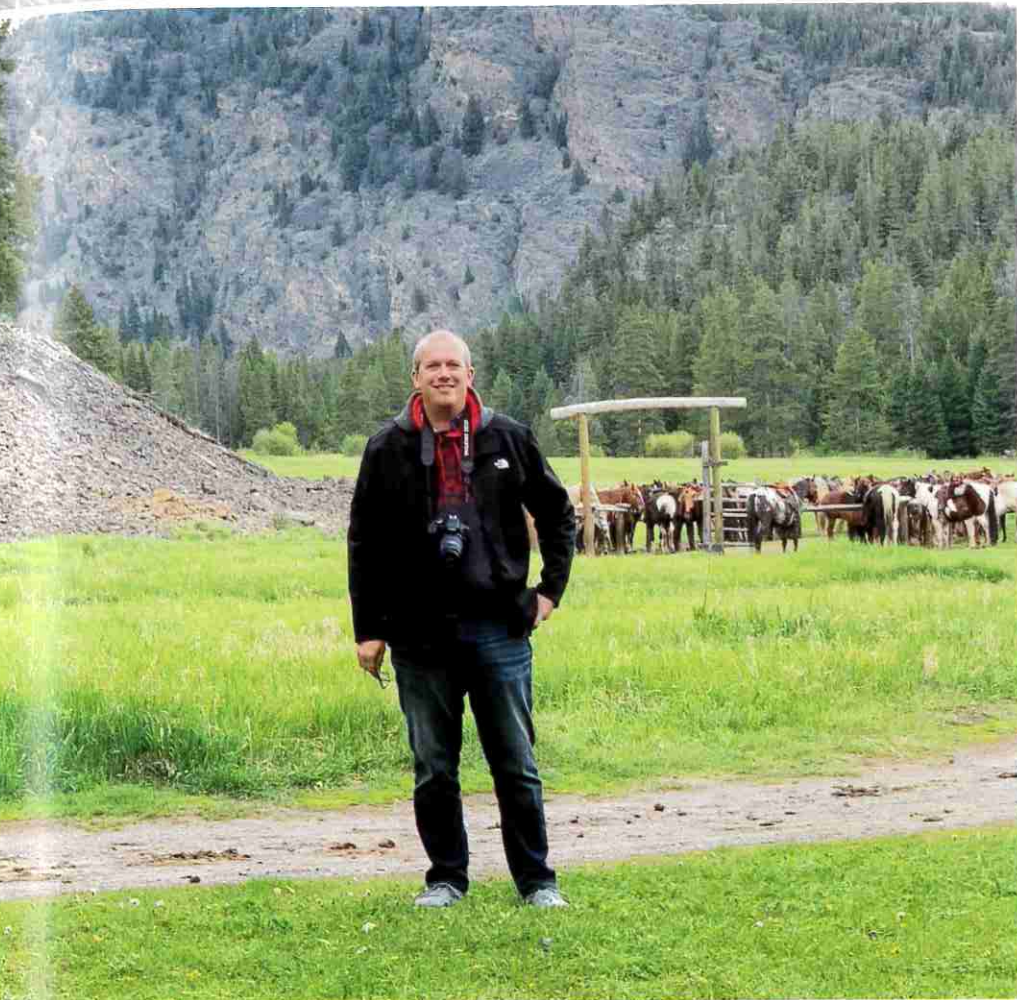




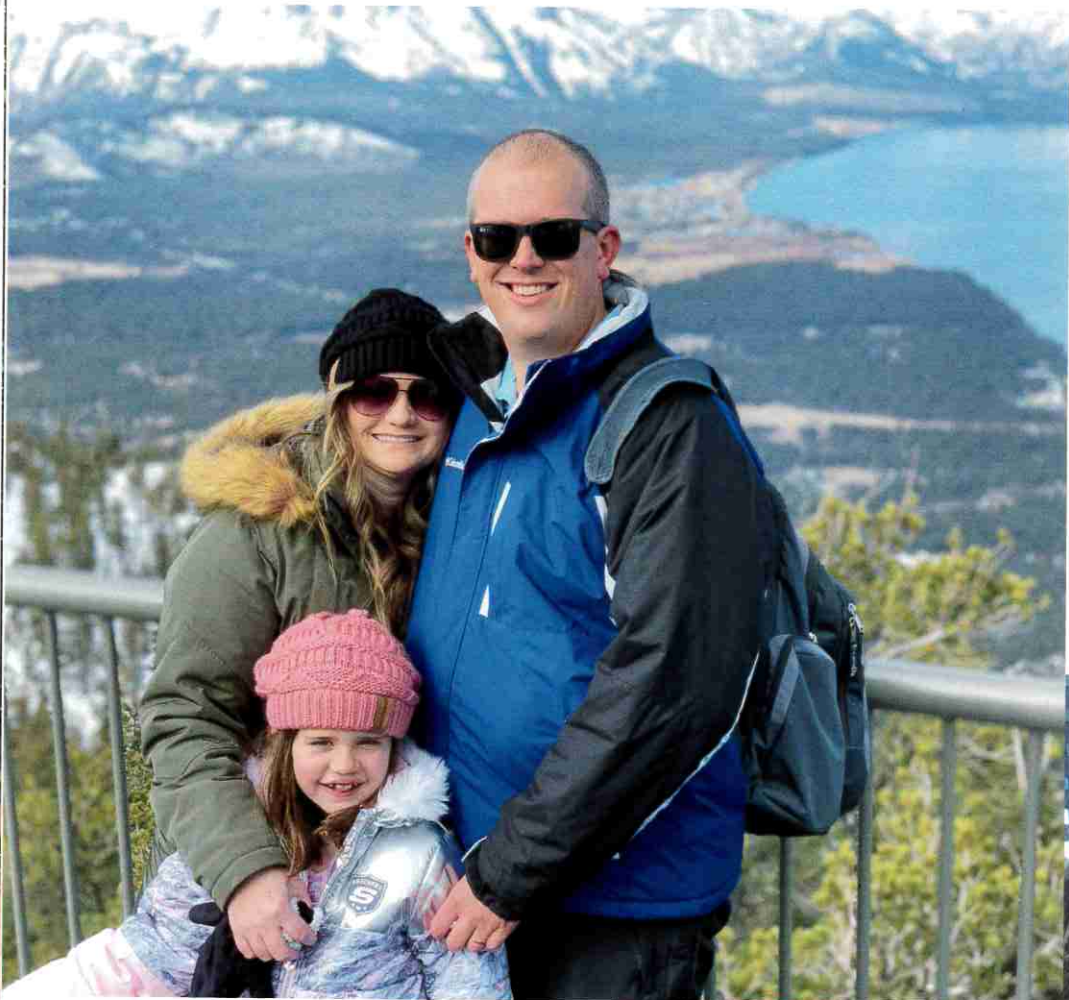
*a little about*  
**KEVIN**

I would describe myself as an easy going and thoughtful person. I have a good sense of humor and like to make people laugh. I enjoy working on projects around the house, and spending time with family. Around the holidays I like to decorate the house, and make it look good for our neighborhood. I enjoy traveling for snow in the winter for outdoor activities. Growing up, my parents often took me to Disneyland and I still like going to theme parks. I was excited to take Madison for her first time, I really liked seeing the excitement on her face. I have a Master's degree in Information Technology Management, and work for a defense contractor as a Data Center Virtualization Team Lead. My project at home this spring was building a tree house deck for Madison in the backyard.











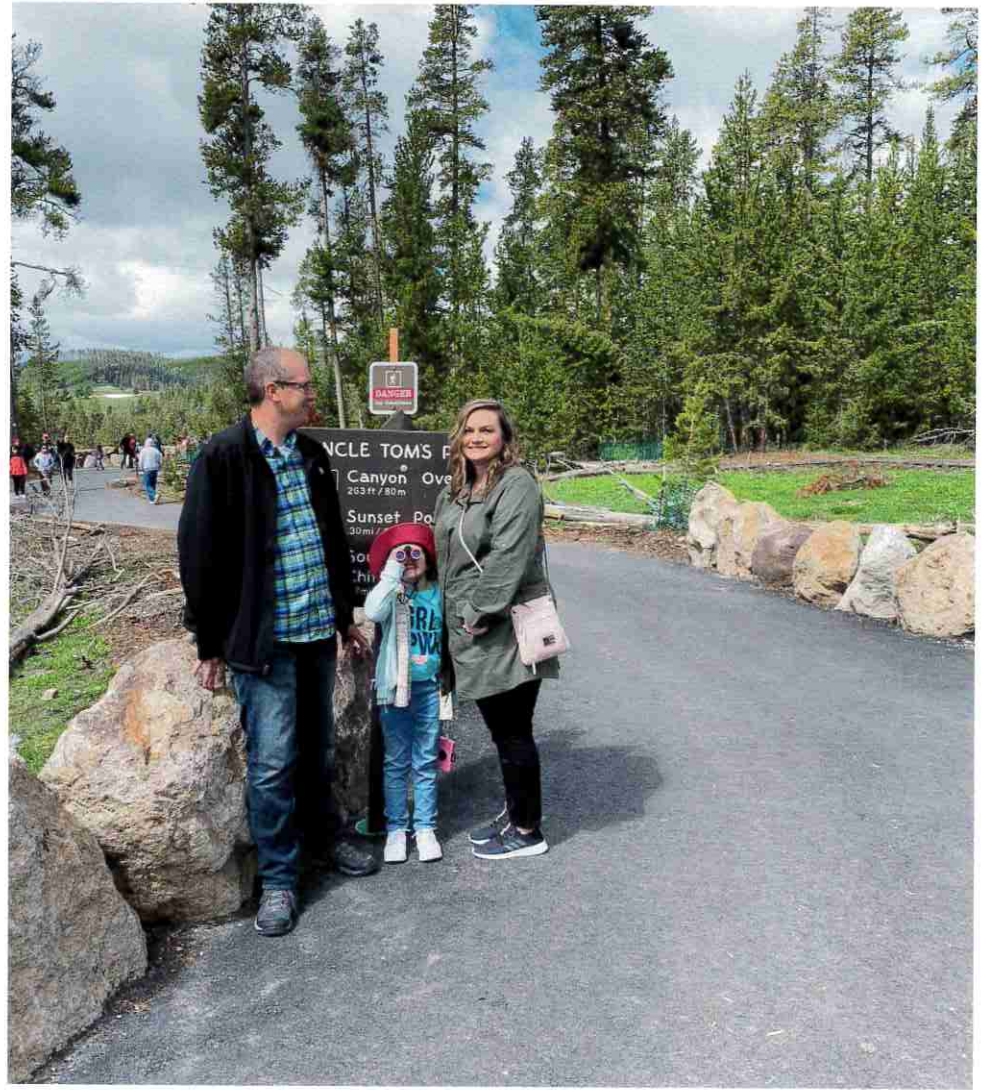
*a little about*

## MICHELLE

I would describe myself as an outgoing person who is up for almost anything. One of my favorite activities is visiting the zoo. I have always had a special place in my heart for animals and love to be around them in my spare time. I have always enjoyed landscaping and being out in the sun. In the spring and summer you can usually find me in the yard starting a new project, whether it be planting new flowers, or moving things around. Another hobby of mine is decorating our home. I find a couple of areas in our home to re-decorate each year. I have earned two college degrees, an Associates in Administration of Justice and a Bachelors in Business Administration with concentration in Information technology. I am certified in Project+, Microsoft Project, as well as Security+. This training has helped me advance in my career. I work for a nationally recognized company in the field of Information Technology and Defense Contracting here in Arizona. I enjoy my job as an IT Project Manager as each day I learn something new. I feel proud that I can be part of creating a better learning environment for our United States Soldiers.

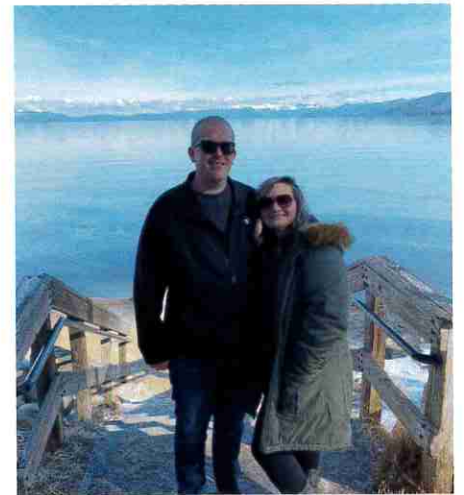
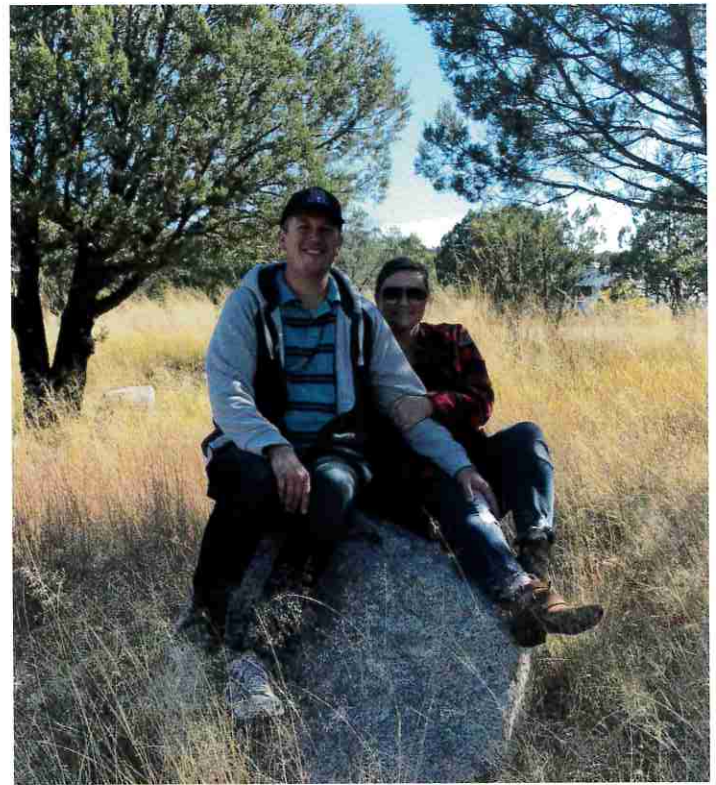
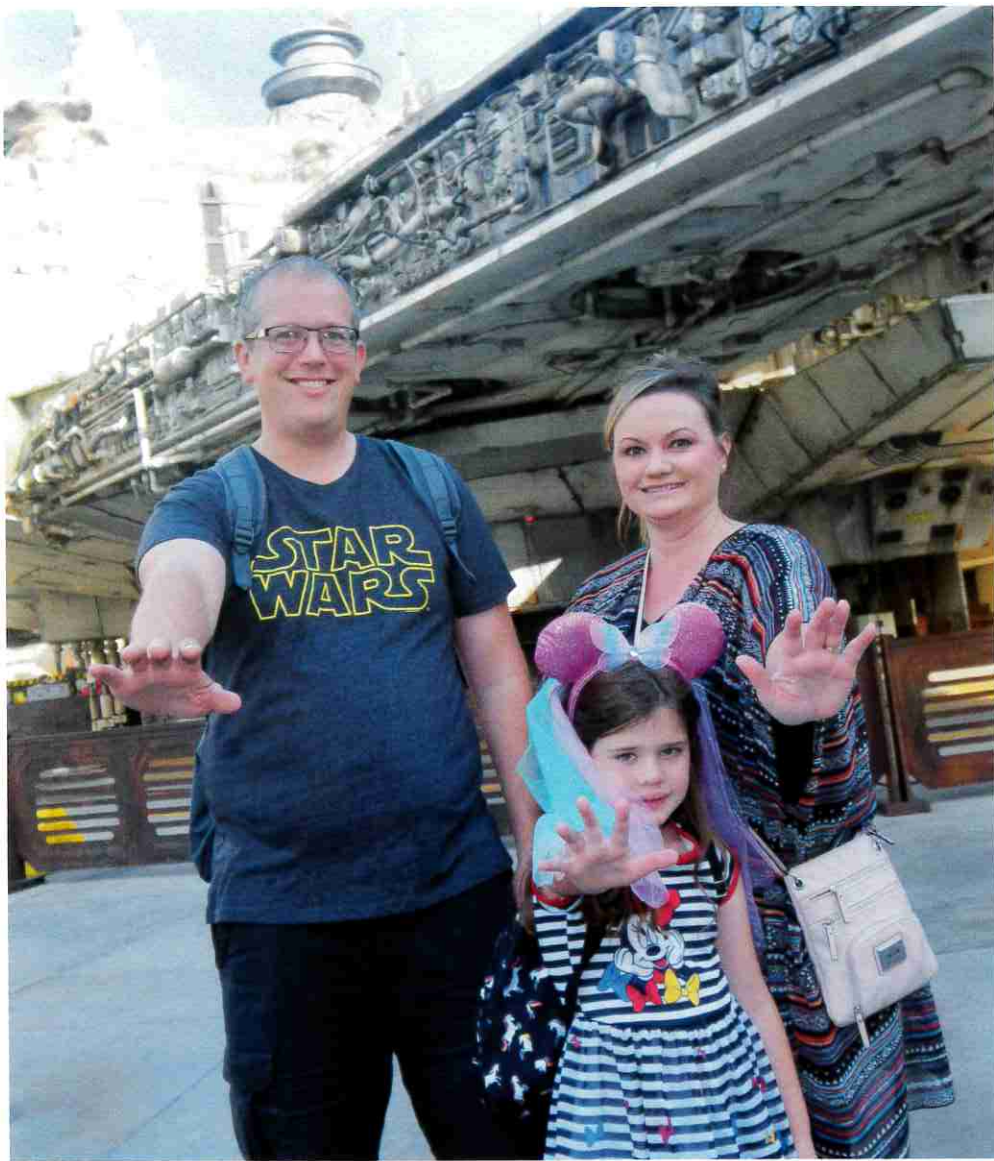






good times







OUR *home* AND NEIGHBORHOOD







We live in a quiet subdivision along with many families that have children. We own a 2300 sq ft. three bedroom home in a friendly neighborhood. We have a fully fenced yard with plenty of room for children to play. Our house is less than five minutes away from the local school, and park, where we go to frequently. We value education and believe that every child deserves the chance to go to college in order to achieve their dream job. We are so excited to grow our family again. Madison is excited to have a little brother or sister sleeping in the room next to her's.







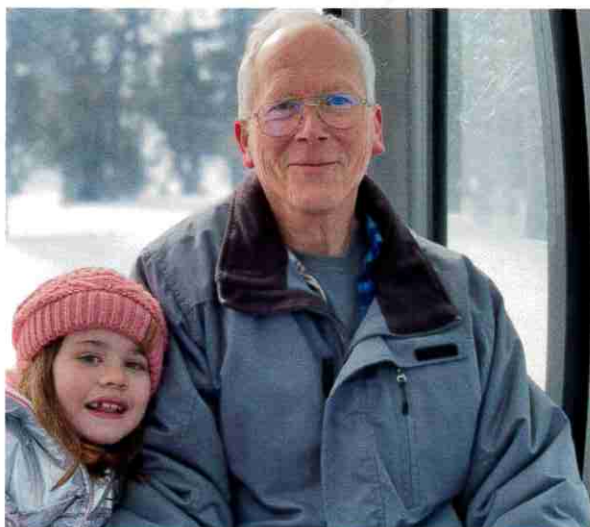


Our Daughter Madison is a sweet energetic little girl. During the summer months, you can usually find the family swimming in our pool enjoying the sun. Holiday baking is one of our family traditions. Madison loves to measure out of the ingredients and pour them in for mixing, not to mention sneaking a few chocolate chips. One of her hobbies is looking for geodes and hunting for other rocks. She is a very curious girl and loves to experience new things.

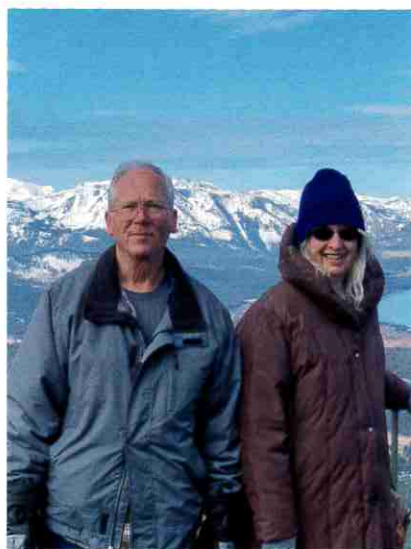


*sweet memories*



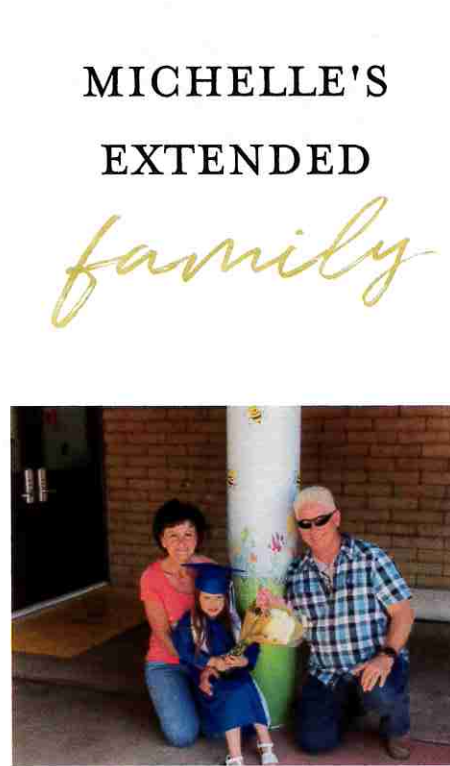
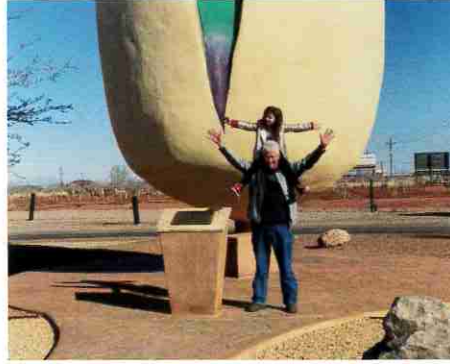


KEVIN'S  
EXTENDED  
*family*



Dennis and Jeanette, Kevin's parents, enjoy going on vacations with us. Recently, they enjoyed a trip to Lake Tahoe with us, and got to see Madison go snow tubing for the first time. Madison is also excited to join in her Grandma and Grandpa's holiday baking tradition each year.



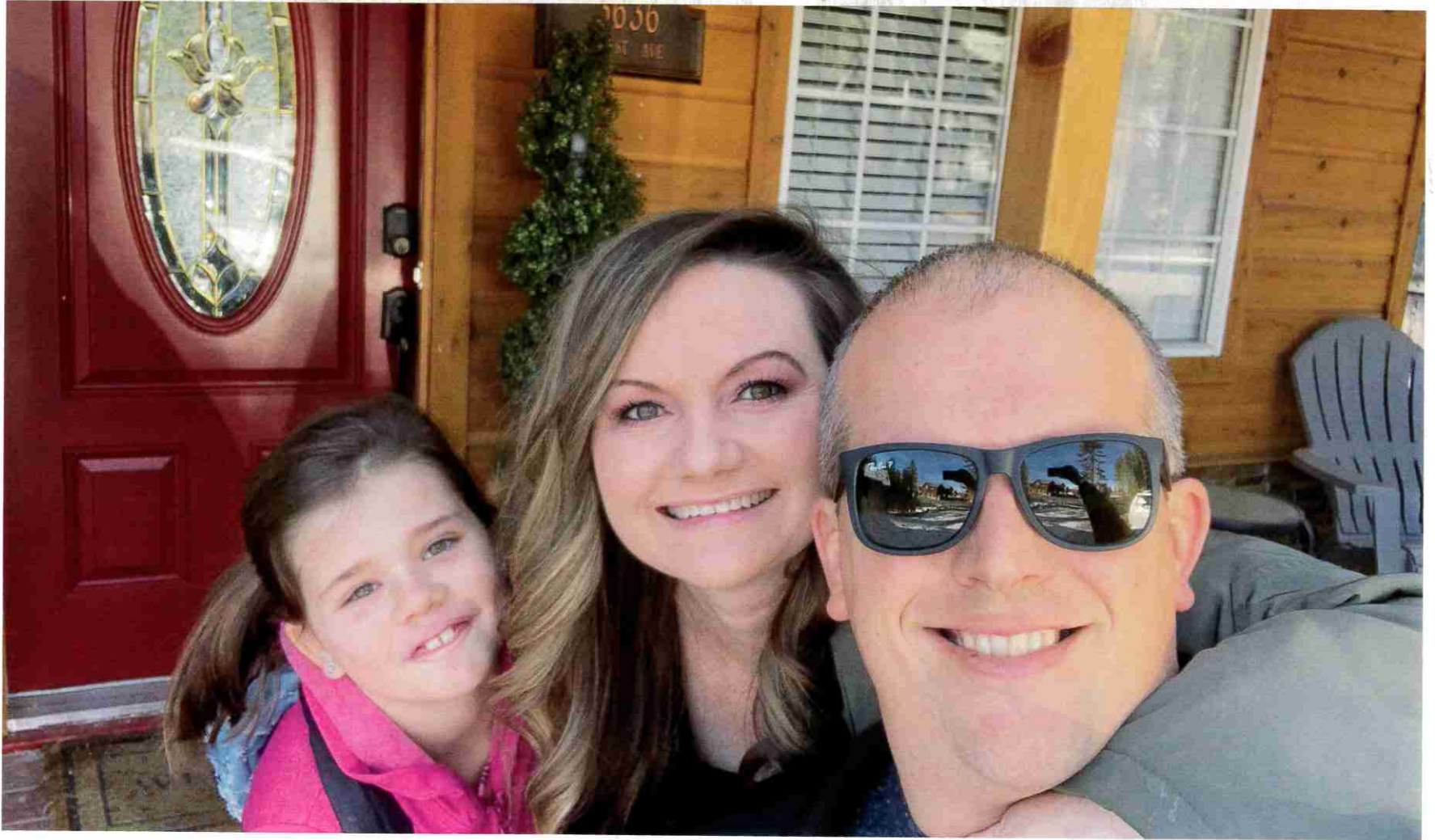


MICHELLE'S  
EXTENDED  
*family*

Glen and Joan, Michelle's parents, enjoy being outdoors camping, fishing, and gardening. Madison likes to have sleepovers with Nana and Papa. Our parents are very supportive of our decision to adopt and cant wait to greet their new grandchild. Luckily, both of our parents live only about 30 minutes away and we are able to have a family dinner on the weekends.



# FAMILY TRADITIONS

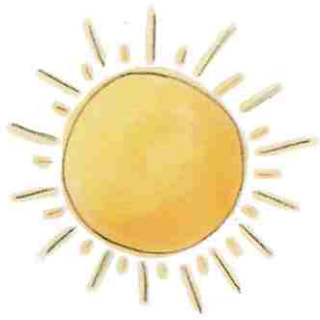




As a family, we have many traditions. We look forward to them each season. One of our yearly family traditions is visiting the pumpkin patch to find the best pumpkin. We also enjoy going through the corn maze! Another family tradition is baking, we love baking for holidays as well as decorating the house for the time of year. We enjoy finding family activities that we can do together. On Friday nights we enjoy making popcorn, watching a movie, and spending time together. Most weeknights we like to cuddle up and read a book, play a board game, or hang out in our back yard. Weekend activities include riding bikes, finding new places to hike, or spending time with grandparents. We are always on the lookout for a park with fun playground equipment. We all love animals, and learning about them, so we enjoy visiting the local zoo as well. When it is nice outside, we like working on projects in the yard, and enjoy spending time outdoors.





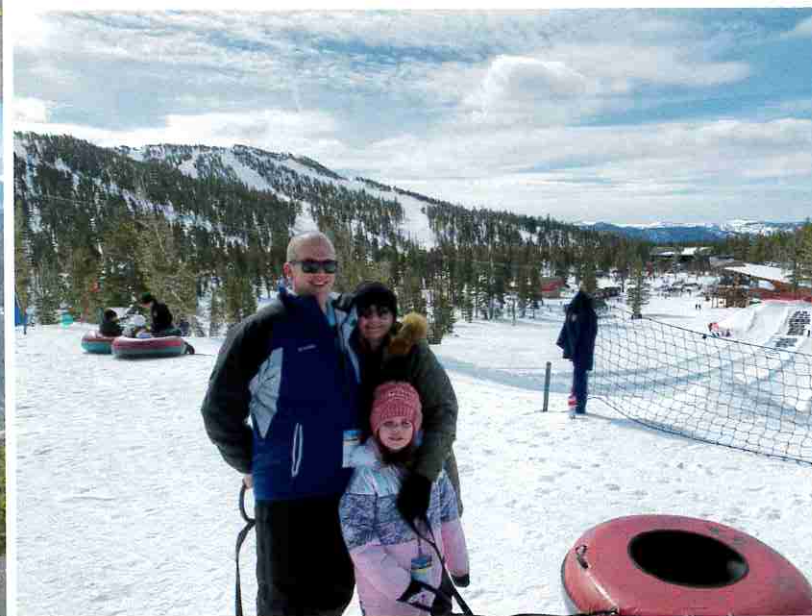
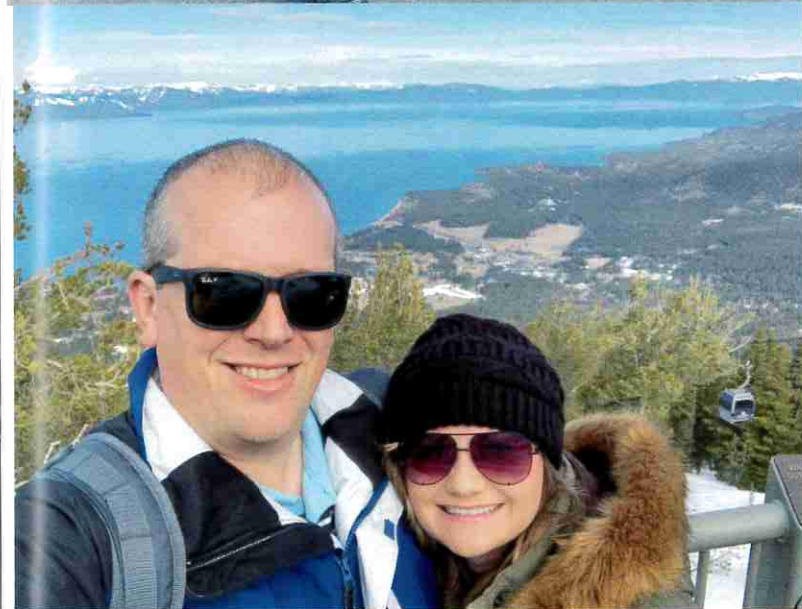
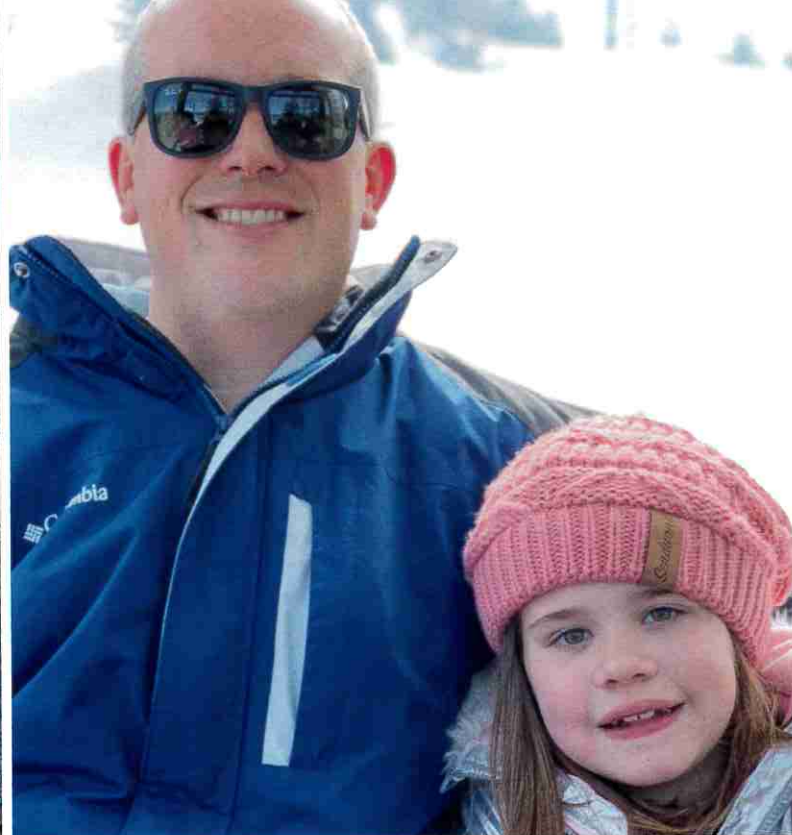


# *Life is an* **ADVENTURE**



We love traveling to new places and experiencing new things. Kevin has always been a fan of theme parks. Once Madison was old enough, we traveled to California and visited Sea World, Disneyland, and the beach on our family vacation. We enjoyed spending time out by the beach. Madison had a great time building sand castles with her Dad, and splashing her feet with her mom. We also enjoy visiting national and state parks like Yellowstone, Kartchner Caverns, and the dunes at White Sands New Mexico. In the winter we try to find a snowy area to play, sled, or go snow tubing.













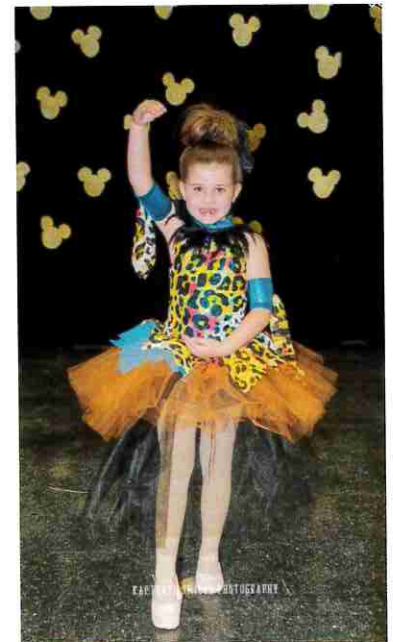






# Our Interests

In our free time we like to go on hikes, go to the movies, visit theme parks, and being outdoors. Madison loves spending her time dancing and singing.







This is our Boston Terrier, Penny.  
She loves playing and running  
really fast. Penny always makes  
time for napping.



*all you need*  
**IS LOVE**  
*and a dog*



S O

M U C H

F U N

A T

H O M E





We are thrilled that adoption has given us the opportunity to grow our family once again. Even before we found out that we were unable to conceive children on our own, growing our family through adoption was in our future. Almost eight years ago, we adopted our beautiful daughter Madison. She instantly became the center of our world. We are once again ready to grow our family and our daughter is excited to become a big sister. We are hoping to find a birth family that is right for us and we are right for them. We understand that this is a life changing event for both you and us, so it should be feel right for both of us. We are open to providing updates and pictures to make the transition as easy as possible. We are fully open and honest with our daughter about her adoption and will continue this in the future as well. As parents we plan to teach our children right from wrong, but we still want them to have a fun and active childhood.

We are fully prepared to provide a loving home, and a financially stable environment for our children. The companies we are employed by both provide quality health benefits. Our parents are also ready for an addition to the family and are waiting to shower the new grandchild with love.



love

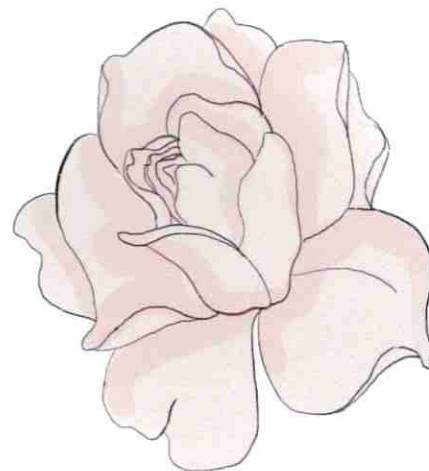
FAMILY



## *Our promise to you...*

We are very excited to be expanding our family and have so much love to share with another child. We will do all we can to love, protect, and teach our children. We would like you to know how brave we think you are for creating an adoption plan. The journey you are on now takes a lot of courage and we admire your strength. We hope this book gave you a look at our lives and we look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,  
Kevin and Michelle







# Our Family

