



**Brad**

**Susan**

**Job Description:**

Project Management Banker Services Manager

**Education:**

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Banking and Business/  
Minor in Business Administration Resource Management

**Favorites:**

**Hobby**  
Golf

**Hobby**  
Exercise

**Quality About Spouse**

Her Giving and Caring

**Quality About Spouse**

His Honesty

**Classic Movie**

The Pink Panther

**Classic Movie**

The Sound of Music

**Tradition**

Annual Vacation with Family

**Tradition**

Family Dinners

**Childhood Memory**

Golfing with My Grandfather

**Childhood Memory**

Roller Skating in the Neighborhood

**Children:**

Amie, 22 years old  
Dakota, 18 years old

If chosen, we as parents will work to prove your choice in us right by offering unconditional love to your child, teaching them love and kindness, and by being the type of parents that the child enjoys hanging-out with.

**What It Means to Be Parents and Our Strengths**

Being parents means being there for your child no matter the circumstances. We understand the responsibilities that come with the privilege of parenting and are overwhelmed with excitement to share all of our love and the love of our families with the child. Our strengths include patience, the ability to listen and hear others' points-of-view, as well as being fully aware that no one can plan for everything that being a parent might throw your way. Our flexibility and adaptability will allow for us to adjust as needed.

We believe that the foundation of parenting begins with love and attention, which in the beginning will entail countless hours of hugging and holding your child, "goo-ing" and "ga-ing" with them, and safely introducing the child to all that the world has to offer. Your child will get all of the attention he/she needs and then some. Neither of us sweat the small stuff and we promise to always put your child, their needs and our love for them first above all else.

As your child grows we will help them in finding what makes them happy and encourage them to pursue whatever it is that may be. We will be there to catch them when they fall, to pick them up after they do and to let them know that if they haven't failed they haven't really tried. No matter how difficult parenting may be at times please know that our love for your child will remain constant.

**What We Do For Fun**

For fun we love "activities" as a family! "Activities" is Amie's favorite word. Like her mother, Amie is the consummate planner so on weekends that she visits she has all sorts of fun and exciting things planned for us to do like hiking, trail riding, getting our boat out on the water, playing softball at the park, playing catch in the back yard or just getting out and enjoying the sunshine together. In the winter months we enjoy the occasional family snowball fights, building snowmen, and we always make an effort to take a ski trip if even just for a weekend. While we have been known to do crazy, kid-like stuff by ourselves, these types of things are always better and more enjoyable when we experience them with the kids and/or our extended families. Everyone in our family is very active with the exception of our Golden Retriever Caurey, but we cut her some slack because she's 11 years old.

When the weather chooses not to cooperate with us we pass the time cooking. We love to spend time together in the kitchen and Susan is not afraid to try great new dishes that we've enjoyed at our favorite restaurants or that she's seen on a cooking show. We also like to play all sorts of different card and board games, a little bit of Wii, or sometimes we just relax on the couch with our favorite movie munchies, our furry four legged friends and watch a movie.

**Our House & Neighborhood**



We live in a wonderful area in Ohio full of community playgrounds and biking/walking paths just 10 minutes outside of a major city. Our neighborhood is full of couples of varying age with children of all ages playing games and riding bikes everywhere you turn. We've been known to sneak over to the neighbor's house and jump on their trampoline when no one's around. Don't worry...we asked their permission when we first moved into the neighborhood.



**Our Home**

We live in a bright and fun filled 2 story home with a fully finished basement complete with a home movie theater; which, at the moment doubles as our Rock Band venue. Out our back door is a large deck as well as a paver patio with a fire pit that's great for roasting hot dogs and marshmallows. We have regular family gatherings at our home and our place is a regular gathering place for Dakota and his friends.

## House & Neighborhood, (continued)



The Back of Our House

Both of us enjoy the outdoors and love taking advantage of the warmer months. Our activities consist of either walking our dogs or taking them to the dog park along with running/biking through the town. We are both so excited for the opportunity to take your child along with us as we explore all sorts of places with our K-9 partners in tow. Susan's kids are excited about the addition of another sibling. Her daughter will be more than willing to rush to your child's aid for any fashion emergencies while her son will gladly take on any "big brother" responsibilities that may come his way while showing the child the best angle at which to slide for optimal grass stains.

## Our Extended Families

Both of our families are extremely excited about our choice to adopt. Positive feedback from them was/is very important to us because we want you to know that the child will be considered as much of a part of our families as everyone else. Our families cannot wait to welcome your child into their lives!

**Brad:** The majority of my extended family resides in Western Kentucky. I have an older sister who is happily married to a great guy. She has 3 kids (2 boys and 1 girl). The oldest is getting ready to graduate high school, the middle is a sophomore, and youngest is in 7th grade. My parents live on 2 acres, are both recently retired and plan to have their pool completed by early summer! Susan and I visit them as often as possible and always have a great time when we're all together. They have all been great and completely accepting of Susan's kids as though they had always been a part of the family.



Brad's Family

My family's primary traditions consist of holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas) as well as at least 1 family vacation a year to Marco Island, FL. In recent years we have traveled to Colorado during late winter for some skiing and some fun in the snow.

**Susan:** I am the proud mother of 2 children from my previous marriage. My daughter is pursuing her master's degree and my son will be attending college locally in the fall of 2011. My kids are all a mother could hope for with regards to academics, their personalities, as well as their fire for life. Both have been very accepting of the addition of Brad to our family as my son was best man and my daughter maid of honor at our wedding.

All of my extended family resides close by in Ohio. I am the middle child, only girl with an older and younger brother. My older brother has 2 beautiful girls (one in college and the other is soon to follow) and a hilarious and athletic 11 year old boy. My younger brother is the proud father of a wonderful girl currently in college. He is recently married and is looking to extend their family and is considering adoption as well. My parents are divorced and my mother is now married to a wonderful man whom I love dearly. My parents are very important to me and have provided excellent advice and guidance during my life. They are especially excited about our choice to adopt a child and can't wait for another grandchild. Traditions that my family enjoy are spending holidays together as a large extended family. My brothers and I enjoy taking turns hosting holidays at our houses where we open our doors to family and friends...the more the merrier! I am most happy when my house is full of the people we love and love us!



Family Gathering for Birthday Party

## Our Pets Are Important To Us



Our Furry Friends

In our household we have 3 dogs, all of which have extremely different personalities and are very important to us. They are always excited to see people, especially the members of our family that they know and love. The oldest, Caurey, is an 11 year old Golden Retriever who we've nicknamed "Momma". She is the friendliest and most passive dog that you will ever meet...and she loves chewing gum! Next in line is the princess of the house Riley. Riley is a 2 year old mini Golden-Doodle who believes that her place is on top of a mound of pillows to which no one else should have access. She is extremely friendly, loves to cuddle and enjoys playing fetch. And last, but definitely not least is our pup Izzy. Izzy's a 5 month old Australian Shepard who is a bulldozer and believes she runs the show. She too is very friendly, loves attention and is excited to see anyone and everyone.



A Trip to California



Ski Trip to Colorado



Dancing at Our Wedding

# Brad & Susan



Happy Mother's Day



Vacation Fun!



Dakota and Amie with  
Their Grandparents

## Dear Birthparent(s),

As birth parents we can only imagine the choices that lay ahead of you and how difficult they must be. No matter the situation or decision, please remember that you are very strong individuals and that you should be proud about the fact that every decision you make is for your child's best interest. Regardless of where you go from here, your child will always know and appreciate the sacrifices you made to give them the opportunity to experience the world and all it has to offer!



While we have 2 children from a previous marriage, due to circumstances beyond our control we are unable to have a child of our own together. Although coming to terms with these circumstances would be difficult for most couples, for us we knew that our love for one another and our desire to be together would far outweigh any obstacles. So, for us adoption has always been on our list of options to grow our family. We are both firm believers that everything happens for a reason and that we are all part of a greater plan; therefore, we don't always know what lay in store for us and why. We believe that God put us together for a reason and part of that reason is for us to share our love with others including a child.

We are so grateful and thankful for the opportunity that the world of adoption has brought to us. We understand that the choice to allow someone else to raise your child will not be easy. Please know that it is our goal to speak with the child early and often about the day that they came into the world, how much their birth parents loved and continue to love them as well as about the day they and God blessed us with the honor to raise him/her. When the child asks, "Where did I come from?" we will tell them that, "the Lord loved your birth parents so much that he decided to bless them with a gift that was you and that your birth parents performed the most difficult and selfless act in choosing to share their blessing (you) with us." Before the child will be able to speak their first words they will have heard countless stories about all of the people in their life that love them... and the story of their birth parents will be the most frequently told. We will tell them of the tremendous sacrifice that their birth parents made and how diligently they searched for the best people that they could find to help their child grow, flourish, and be loved and that they made that decision for no other reason but for them (the child). If chosen, we as parents will work to prove your choice in us right by offering unconditional love to your child, teaching them love and kindness, and by being the type of parents that the child enjoys hanging-out with.

If we are fortunate enough to be selected by you to raise your child, we will provide you with regular updates through pictures and letters and would welcome any letters and/or pictures you would like to share with your child. Overall, we want you to be able to decide the level of openness. We understand if your feelings and/or desires for open or closed communication may change over time and we are willing to be flexible throughout the child's life as you see fit.

Having said all of that, we want you to know how appreciative we are that you have taken the time to look at our pictures and read a little bit about us and our family. Please know that whatever your situation and whatever your choice, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Thank you and we wish you peace in your decision.

**Brad and Susan**