



Your child will be the center of our lives. We are very fortunate that our jobs provide us a great deal of flexibility and the ability to provide your child with all varieties of opportunities – academic, social, athletic and artistic – whatever your child chooses.

Chris

Christina

Job Description:

Attorney

Attorney (Planning to Work Part Time After Adoption)

Education:

Bachelor of Arts with Majors in Theatre and Psychology; Juris Doctorate

Bachelor of Arts with Majors in Political Science and Psychology; Juris Doctorate

Favorites:

Quality About Spouse

She Brings Love to Everything She Does

Quality About Spouse

Kindness and Loyalty to Family and Friends

Classic Movie

Casablanca

Classic Movie

To Kill A Mockingbird

Vacation Spot

Las Vegas

Vacation Spot

Cruising in the Caribbean

Sandwich

Turkey the Day After Thanksgiving (or the Night of)

Sandwich

Buffalo Chicken

Shopping Store

Best Buy

Shopping Store

Macy's

Children:

None

What Led Us To Adoption

From the time we got married, we planned to have children. We decided to wait until Chris finished law school (he worked full time during the day and went to law school at night for four years) so we would both have plenty of time for a child. After Chris graduated, we began trying to start a family. Eventually, we turned to a fertility specialist. For the next several years, we underwent fertility treatments, which were physically and emotionally challenging for both of us. Despite repeated disappointment, we knew we wanted to be parents and share our life and experiences with a special child. We considered the alternatives and, after much thought, decided adoption was the right path for us. We are very fortunate to have several friends who have adopted and other friends who are in the process of adopting. We know this support system will be invaluable to us and our child now and in the years to come.

Things We Look Forward to Sharing with a Child

There are so many things we look forward to sharing with a child, it's hard to know where to begin. The thing we are most excited to share with a child is our unconditional love and the love of our families. We also look forward to sharing all of the things we enjoy to see what this special child likes best. A few of the things we will share are:

- Vacations – We enjoy traveling to different parts of the country and the world. Some places we would like to visit again with a child include Alaska, Washington, DC, Walt Disney World and London.
- Sports – We love sports and go to lots of games. We always enjoy taking our nieces and nephews – even though they are usually more interested in the “kids fun day” activities, cotton candy and fireworks than the actual game.
- Outdoor activities – We are both cyclists and enjoy riding on the trails near our home. We also ride in events to raise money for charities each summer.
- Family traditions – We have lots of wonderful family traditions to share such as family game nights and holiday cookie baking. We are also excited to create new traditions with a child!

We can't wait to share these things – and many more – to witness the wonder and joy of a child discovering new passions.

Our House & Neighborhood



We live in an Ohio suburb with lots of families with young children. We live on a quiet cul-de-sac in a four bedroom colonial. We have an eat-in kitchen where we share meals with family and friends. Christina loves to cook and, in nice weather, Chris helps out by grilling on the deck. Our backyard is large with lots of open space. We sometimes take a blanket to the back yard, stretch out together and read books while enjoying the warm weather. We look forward to adding a swing set, sand box or a soccer goal to our yard.



Our Home

We both enjoy being outdoors and often take walks in our neighborhood. We have a small pond in our neighborhood that we walk to so we can feed the ducks and geese. Christina loves geese! Our neighborhood also has a playground, a swimming pool and tennis courts to enjoy. We also live close to many parks with hiking, biking and horseback riding trails.

House & Neighborhood, (continued)



Christmas Morning After Gift Opening

One of our favorite traditions is decorating the house for Christmas. We put up two trees and decorate the rest of the house the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Our Christmas trees are unique because we have collected all of the ornaments together – usually from our travels – and each reminds us of a special trip we have taken. We also unpack Christina’s “Santa collection”. Each one is Santa Claus from a different country and each was a gift from Chris. They are fun to unpack, but not so fun to put away after Christmas! When we are done decorating, we turn down the lights, curl up on the couch together and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere with friends, family and our other family member, Chloe the cat.

Our Extended Families

By Christina: Even though I am an only child, I grew up in rural Ohio in a large tight-knit family. When I was three, my grandparents moved into the house next door. Every Sunday my entire extended family (aunts, uncles and lots of cousins) would come to my grandparents’ house for Sunday dinner. I have always been extremely close to my parents. Chris sometimes jokes that he didn’t realize he was marrying all three of us when he proposed! I have wonderful childhood memories of family bike rides, walks in the park, fishing trips, playing in the back yard and family vacations.

My parents always let me “help” with their projects – everything from cooking with my mom to changing the oil in the car with my dad. My parents taught me the value of education and the rewards that come from hard work. They also showered me with unconditional love by being my biggest fans and encouraging me to achieve all my dreams. I simply cannot describe how excited they are to become grandparents or how much love they have to share with a grandchild. They are both retired teachers and are already volunteering to babysit. I’m also pretty sure my mom is secretly shopping for baby gear! They truly can’t wait to be grandparents.

By Chris: I have a large “blended” family that all comes from the “city.” My parents divorced when my brother and I were in elementary school and both have since happily remarried. I am lucky to have gained a step-mother, a step-father, two step-sisters and lots of grandparents. Christina jokingly refers to us as the “Brady Bunch.” The “Brady Bunch” effect provides the benefit of many points of view and approaches to life. Between my brother and sisters, I have eight nieces and nephews! The kids are great and make our family gatherings noisy and lots of fun. The opening of Christmas gifts takes hours!

Christina and I both enjoy spending time with the kids – things like baseball games, sledding, bike riding and trips to amusement parks, mini-golf and science centers are always special. We are fortunate that everyone lives in the area making it easy to visit.

My parents are all very supportive. I grew up with my mother and learned most of life’s lessons from her - especially how to be a good and caring person and to put one’s own needs aside for the needs of others. As I watch her in the role of grandmother with our nieces, I see what an outstanding nurturer she is. She enjoys teaching ABCs, arts and sports to another generation.

My dad is the embodiment of unconditional love. His love for all his children (natural and by marriage) and all the grandkids is amazing. Watching him with my nieces and nephews reminds me of the days he spent teaching me to hit a baseball. His patience and determination for me to achieve my goals sticks with me today. I am so excited for him to be a grandpa again.

Other than Christina, my brother is my best friend. We enjoy each other’s company playing fantasy sports, softball, bowling and golf. His daughters are delightful and are especially excited for a new cousin.



Chloe with the Christmas Gifts

Our Cat Chloe

Our cat, Chloe, was a very special Christmas gift from Chris to Christina several years ago. When we got home from church late on Christmas Eve, there was a furry “gift” waiting in one of the bedrooms. From that point on, our long-haired princess has ruled the roost. She clearly knows she was a Christmas gift because one of her favorite places to lay is under the Christmas tree. She actually gets upset when there are too many gifts and she can’t find a “good spot.” At this point, she has us well trained – we always leave space for her – no matter how many gifts are under the tree!

Chloe is playful and spends lots of time with us. Her favorite “toy” is the red dot from the laser pointer. She will chase the “red bug” all over the room (even trying to climb the walls to reach it) until it disappears. This is great exercise for our well-fed (and completely spoiled) cat!



Christina's Extended Family



Family Picnic - Chris's Extended Family and Christina's Parents



All Dressed Up
for a Fundraiser

Chris & Christina



Hanging Out at a
60's Themed Party



Having Fun at an
Indians Game



With Our Goddaughter
Leah After Her Baptism



Getting Ready for a
Charity Bike Ride



Sightseeing in New York City

Dear Birthparent(s),

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us and considering our family. We hope this letter and our profile help you understand our story, how excited we are to become parents and how much love we have to share. We want you to know how much we respect your decision to consider an adoption plan for your child.

We believe we have many wonderful things to offer your child – most importantly, our unconditional love and support. When we were married, we wrote our own vows so they would express our true feelings about marriage and each other. We fulfill the promises we made in these vows every day. Our vows included the following promise:

I promise to love you without reservation, comfort you in times of distress, encourage you to achieve all of your goals, celebrate your successes, and share your hurts, tears and failures as if they were my own.

We make this same promise to your child – there will always be love and unending support. We will be there to celebrate successes, wipe tears and provide encouragement to follow his or her dreams.

It is hard to put into words everything we want to share with you, especially our joy at the thought of becoming parents and our hopes and dreams for your child. We have been married for ten years and every day is a new chapter in our journey. We know how fortunate we are to have found each other and openly express our love for each other every day. Our frequent “I love yous” and hand holding earn us teasing from friends and family, but we don’t mind. We have tremendous love and respect for one another and we look forward sharing our love with your child.

Like many other couples, we have struggled with infertility. Our struggles were painful, but we are always there for each other. In a strange way, our infertility helped confirm that parenthood is a chapter of life that we absolutely want to write. We have spent a lot of time thinking and talking about adoption and know this is the path we were meant to walk to achieve our dream of becoming parents. We are ready to share our hearts, lives and home with your child.

Your child will be the center of our lives. We are very fortunate that our jobs provide us a great deal of flexibility and the ability to provide your child with all varieties of opportunities – academic, social, athletic and artistic – whatever your child chooses. We look forward to little league games, dance recitals, school field trips, bedtime stories and all the rest. We will share our love of life, sports, music, theater and reading, and will encourage your child to find passions with which to write the chapters of his or her life. We look forward “family time” like bike rides in the park, trips to Browns and Indians games, movie nights, playing in the back yard and family vacations.

Please know that we will always be open and honest with your child about his or her adoption story. We will make your child a life book that includes information about you that you are comfortable sharing. Your child will know how much love you have in your heart and that your decision to make an adoption plan was based on this love. We will also send you pictures and letters so you can see your child grow through the years.

In addition to our love, your child will also experience the love of our family and friends. Everyone in our lives strongly supports our decision to adopt and looks forward to welcoming your child. Our parents are especially excited to have a little one to love and spoil as only grandparents can! Many of our close friends have young children, so your child will not have any shortage of playmates! We even have several friends who have adopted so your child will have friends who are adopted.

We cannot begin to imagine how you must be feeling and the decisions you are facing. We hope you find comfort in the days ahead as you make decisions for you and your child. Whatever you decide, we are confident you will do what is best for both of you. Please know you are in our thoughts and that we wish you and your child all the best.

With love and respect,

Chris and Christina

