



**Dan**

**Alexandra**

**Job Description:**

Region Manager for a Large Hospital Supply Company

Stay-at-Home Mom

**Education:**

BA in Political Science

BA in Communications

**Favorites:**

**Childhood Memory**

Going on Car Trips with My Family

**Childhood Memory**

Going to College Basketball Games with My Dad

**Hobbies**

Home Improvement Projects, Golf

**Hobbies**

Cooking, Baking, Volunteering

**Magazines**

Sports Illustrated and Men's Health

**Magazines**

In Style, Us Weekly and Women's Health

**Children's Book**

The Little Engine That Could

**Children's Book**

Harold and the Purple Crayon

**Classic Movie**

Christmas Vacation

**Classic Movie**

The Princess Bride

**Children:**

Eli, age 2

Your child will be loved and cherished more than words can describe by our entire extended family. He or she will grow up in a beautiful, safe neighborhood with nationally ranked schools. Your child will also grow up knowing how special YOU are, and our family will speak of you regularly so your child will always know, love and respect you.

**How Our Family Been Personally Affected by Adoption**

Our first son, Eli, came to us through adoption. We adopted him from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in June of 2008 after five years of marriage. After a few years of marriage, we discovered we would not be able to have children on our own. But we were not discouraged! We both somehow always felt our children would come to us through adoption, and we could not be more thankful. We feel that Eli was always meant to be our child. And we have the utmost respect for you, as a Birthparent, and your choice to place your child. And though the circumstances of Eli's adoption make birth family contact impossible (many children in Ethiopia are abandoned or their birth parents have passed on), we look forward to maintaining an open relationship with you if that is what you wish too. We hold you and your choice in the highest regard.

**Our Lifestyles**

We are very blessed that Dan has a good job that he loves and that allows Alexandra to be a stay-at-home-mom. Dan works Monday through Friday from about 8:30 to 5:30, and Alexandra spends her days with Eli doing music classes, toddler gymnastics, playdates, playing at the park or going to the zoo. Alexandra also spends her time at home teaching Eli shapes, animals, colors, the alphabet, etc. In the evenings, Alexandra enjoys cooking dinner for the family. In the summers, we might go get ice cream after dinner and walk to a nearby playground with Eli. On the weekends we like to have family and friends over to BBQ, watch sports, and hang out.

**Our House & Neighborhood**



We live in a wonderful, family-oriented suburb of a big city in Ohio. The thing we love most about our neighborhood is that there are so many children running around. Every family in our neighborhood has young children - from newborns to about 10 years old. On sunny afternoons and evenings, families meet outside so their children can run, play and ride bikes with each other.

Neighbors really go out of their way to look out for one another's children. We are so blessed to have so many young families living around us - your child will already have many built-in friends when he or she goes off to preschool or kindergarten.



**Our Home**

## Our House & Neighborhood, continued

We also love the fact that our neighborhood has a wonderful family golf and fitness club just two blocks away. During the summers, we walk with Eli down to the pool and splash and play all afternoon. There's also a little playground he likes to play on. And the club does something special for the neighborhood children for each holiday. For example, there was a Halloween party with children's music, candy and hayrides ... and on St. Patty's Day, the club had a great Irish festival with dancers, music and yummy food.

We are also blessed to live in one of the nation's top-ranked school districts. Your child will receive a wonderful education in our public school system.



Our Wonderful Pets: Bowden, Norm and Taylor

## Our Extended Families



Alexandra's Extended Family

We are both so lucky to have such loving and supportive extended families! Alexandra's parents still live in the Washington, D.C. home she grew up in with her younger brother. Dan's parents, sister and brother-in-law all live within a mile of us! We eat dinner with them often, and we often get together with Dan's sister, brother-in-law and one-year-old niece for playdates with Eli.

Our extended families fully support our plans to adopt, just as they were throughout our first adoption. Eli is the "apple of their eyes," and both Dan's and Alexandra's families can't wait to love and spoil another grandchild!



Celebrating the Birth of Our Niece



Celebrating The Buckeyes with Dan's Family

## What We'll Tell Our Children About Adoption

We want our children to know their adoption stories from day one. In fact, we've been talking to our son Eli about his adoption since the day we met him (even though he was just a baby). We also pray with him for his Birth Family every night. We will do the very same with your child. You, as the Birthparent, will always be loved, honored and respected in our home.

We also welcome an open adoption arrangement if that is what you are comfortable with in this adoption. While the special circumstances surrounding our first son's adoption from Ethiopia unfortunately make contact with his birth family impossible, we look forward to sending you many pictures of and letters about your child on a regular basis! Again, you, as the child's Birthparent, will be a special part of our family no matter what - you will always be honored and cherished by our entire family. We will always make sure our children know how special, strong, and wonderful their Birthparents are - and they will grow up with a deep love and respect for you throughout their lives.



On Our Way Home From Ethiopia



Visiting Annapolis



In San Diego



Picture with Santa

Dan  
&  
Alexandra



Dressed Up for a Wedding



Eli's First Baseball Game



Halloween

## Dear Birthparent(s),

Thank you so much for taking the time to read about us and consider us to become adoptive parents to your child. While we are honored that you are reading this letter, we can't even begin to imagine all that you must be going through at this time. Please know that we stand behind you 100 percent no matter what decision you make, as we know that you will make your decision out of love for your baby.

We are Alexandra and Dan. We met in college and fell in love - becoming engaged after only a few months of dating! We waited until finishing school to get married, and after five years of marriage adopted our beautiful son, Eli, from Ethiopia.

**Alexandra About Dan:** I can't even put into words how much I love and respect my husband. I admire his open-mindedness, his concern for others, and his selflessness. No matter what, he always puts family first. But what I love most is that he's my best friend in the world - we share the same sense of humor, interests, goals, and family values. He even makes chores (like cleaning the house or doing yard work) fun! He's also an amazing father who loves to get down on the floor and play blocks, give piggyback rides, and read to our son.

**Dan about Alexandra:** It's hard to know where to start in describing my love for my wife Alexandra. From the very start of our relationship, her true selflessness and caring for others attracted me to her immediately. She is someone I can trust with anything and is always there to support me. I feel like I want to be a better person when I am around her, and she brings out the very best in me everyday. I couldn't be where I am without her help and loving support. And I love her more now than ever as I watch her with our son Eli and the amazing things she accomplishes with him everyday. I am truly blessed to have Alexandra in my life - and to be able to share the rest of my life with her.

We always knew that we wanted to have a family, and spoke about our future plans for family often - even while we were still in college. We always knew that Alexandra would be a stay-at-home mom when the time came, and we were always interested in adopting. After we were married a few years and decided it was the right time to begin a family, we discovered we could not conceive children naturally. No matter - we decided against fertility treatments and began to pursue our dream of becoming adoptive parents.

On the eve of our fifth wedding anniversary, we adopted Eli. He was seven months old at the time. Becoming parents through adoption was the best thing we've ever done. We couldn't be happier or more thankful.

Our days are now filled with piggyback rides, block towers, alphabet songs and zoo trips. Eli loves to dance, so every night we put on "Eli's playlist" and dance with him around the living room. (Yes, he even has his own playlist on our iPod!) And Eli can't wait to be a devoted big brother. It's heartwarming to see him interact with his one-year-old cousin - how he shows her how to use his toys, how he gives her hugs and kisses, and how he crawls around with her on the floor because she can't yet walk.

Your child will be loved and cherished more than words can describe by our entire extended family. He or she will grow up in a beautiful, safe neighborhood with nationally ranked schools. Your child will also grow up knowing how special YOU are, and our family will speak of you regularly so your child will always know, love and respect you.

We look forward to sending you regular pictures, letters and updates about your child so that you always will know how happy and well he or she is. We can't wait to share with you the first words, the first steps, and the funny things that children do and say. Even the temper tantrums and sleepless nights - we want to share it all with you, if you are comfortable with that. We will do everything to honor and respect your wishes when it comes to your adoption plan for your child.

Thank you so much once again for reading our profile and considering our family to become your child's family. We are behind you 100 percent, every step of the way, and wish you all the best at this time.

Sincerely,

**Dan and Alexandra**

