



J.C.

Katie

Job Description:

Director of Board Relations
for a State Agency

Elementary School Teacher

Education:

Masters (Public Administration
& Public Policy),
B.A. (Journalism)

Masters (Elementary
Education) &
B.S. (Journalism)

Favorites:

Actor
George Clooney

Actor
Vince Vaughn

Dream Job
Sports Agent

Dream Job
Ski Instructor

Hobby
Camping & Golf

Hobby
Swimming

Video Game
Tiger Woods PGA Golf

Video Game
Rock Band 2

Sports Team
Ohio State Buckeyes

Children:

Kelly (1)

We know your decision will be guided by your desire for what is best for your child's future, and we sincerely hope we can be a part of that. Parenthood is amazing, and we promise that we will be the best parents possible. Saying thank you just isn't enough for the life and love you are giving this child. We will be forever appreciative for the miracle of life that you share with us.

Qualities We Love, Admire and Respect in Each Other

J.C. about Katie: Katie is an amazing woman and I love her with all my heart. My parents always said that I would know when the right girl came along and with Katie; I had that feeling almost immediately upon meeting her. We truly connect in every way--be it bonding with our daughter, hiking through a muddy trail on a camping trip, playing fetch with our dog, volunteering together, watching a college football game, or working on a home renovation project--we have fun together and enjoy each other's company. I admire how hard she works and how the students in her class and their parents think so highly of her. She is an amazing teacher and has lifelong relationships with students. Often when we are out in the community, she sees students, former students or parents. I am amazed how happy and excited they are to see and talk to her. She is a truly gifted and special teacher. These kids run to hug her! She is full of energy. I think she can accomplish anything. I also respect how she is such a good mother, friend, sister, and daughter. Katie is generous in all ways--giving her time and sharing her talents with charities, her students, and our family. She always remembers birthdays and special occasions. She loves all holidays. I love her smile, her sense of humor, and her zest for life. I feel I am the luckiest guy in the world to have her as my best friend and wife. It was one of my greatest pleasures to celebrate Mother's Day with her the first year she was a mom!

Katie about J.C.: I am both grateful and blessed to have J.C. as my husband. He is very loving and is always supportive of me. We clicked right from the start. I love his sense of humor and how he can always make me, and everyone around him, laugh. One of the things I value most is the teamwork approach we have to everything. We are best friends and there isn't anything we can't handle together. Of all the things to do, my favorite thing is to spend time with him, our daughter, and our dog. We do a wide variety of things together from attending sporting events to going to the symphony. J.C. is a great athlete and musician. He is outgoing, fun, intelligent, open-minded, and hard working. I admire so many things about him. As I always tell him, he is everything I always wanted. He loves children. He is an active and involved parent with our daughter, and there is nothing that he enjoys more than being a Dad.

Our Daughter-Kelly Elizabeth

Adoption has already played an important part of our life. Our daughter, Kelly, was born in March 2008. It was an incredible experience.

We were there for her birth and spent time with her birthmother. She has been our most precious gift, and she lights up our lives. She is inquisitive, determined, active, and adorable! Kelly always has a smile on her face, and it warms our hearts to hear her giggle and sing. Our priority is spending time with her and giving her all the experiences life has to offer.

Our House and Neighborhood



We selected our home and community, just outside one of Ohio's largest cities, with plans to raise a family here. Our home is a cozy, inviting Cape Cod with three bedrooms and two bathrooms, a finished recreation room in the basement, and a fenced-in yard. Our house has character, built in 1939 with much history and charm, including glass front cabinets, built-in shelving, two fireplaces, and even a laundry chute! We enjoy gardening, so we have a yard filled with tulips in the spring and vegetables in the summer.



Our Home

Our House and Neighborhood, continued



At the Park

Katie's Family: Katie comes from a large "Brady Bunch" family! Her parents divorced and both remarried when she was young. Her mom and stepdad are retired after life-long careers in education and live in Florida, while her dad and stepmom still live where she grew up in New York (they work in education as well). She feels that her big, mixed family is an amazing blessing and she knows that "family" is much more than genetics. Combined, she has 8 siblings!

Both sides of Katie's family are very close and we spend a great deal of time with them. Each year, we take a week-long vacation with Katie's mom, stepdad, her brothers, sisters, and their families. We've been all over the Caribbean, to Mexico, Florida, and more. Katie feels that the best thing about her family is their love for each other and the laughter they share. We laugh so hard, we cry! Both sides of Katie's family come to visit us several times a year, as we travel to them as well. We recently hosted Christmas at our house, and Katie's family flew in from all over the country to share this special time with us. While spread out geographically, family vacations, long weekends, impromptu visits, and various holidays bring us together often, and we cherish that time together. Her respective family members have been thrilled to become doting grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. They were so enthusiastic about our opportunity to adopt our daughter, Kelly, and we know they will embrace her new sibling with as much love and excitement.

J.C.'s Family: J.C. is an only child, as his parents, too, struggled with infertility. He has always been very close to his parents.

Sadly, his father passed away in 2006 after a battle with cancer. Shortly thereafter, we moved his mom, who is retired, closer to us. She is now only blocks away. J.C.'s mom is very involved with her local church and enjoys seeing us on a regular basis. She loves to read, shop, and cook. She adores her first grandchild and loves to spend time with her.

Hang On Sloopy

We have a dog named Sloopy. She is a five-year-old Airedale Terrier, named after the song "Hang on Sloopy" which is synonymous with Ohio and The Ohio State University. This is the same kind of dog J.C. had growing up. We love to take Sloopy and Kelly on walks and to play at the park. Sloopy is friendly, gentle, energetic, and known by all the local children. She also loves to go for rides in the car. Before Kelly's arrival she was our "baby," and we adore her. Sloopy loves kids of all ages, and she can't get enough of her little sister. It's fitting that Kelly's first word was "dog" as she loves Sloopy so much and lights up every time she sees her.

Our Extended Families

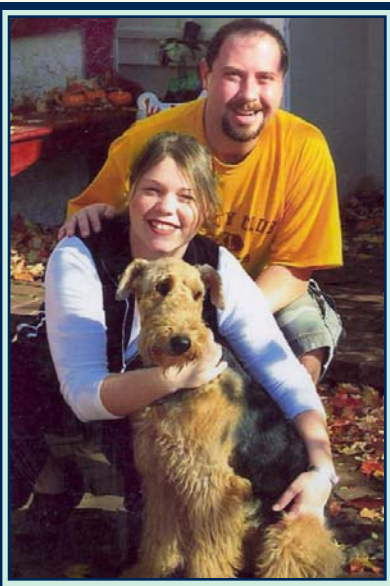
We were both fortunate to be raised in loving homes where family and helping others were the most important things.



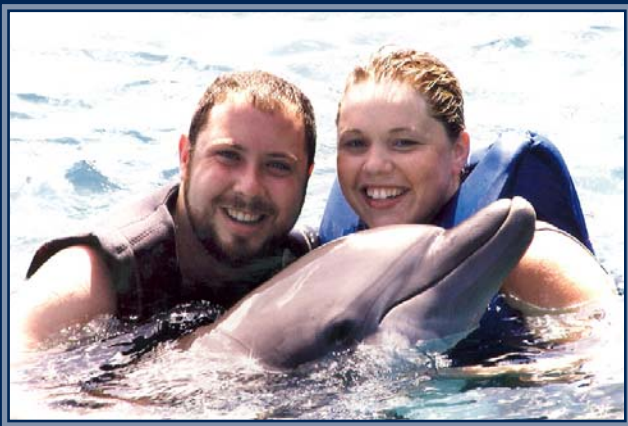
A Recent Family Wedding



Spending Christmas with Loved Ones



At Home with Sloopy



Swimming with Dolphins in Jamaica



The Birth of Our Daughter



All Dressed Up

J.C.
&
Katie



Hitting the Links



Going to an Ohio State Buckeyes
Football Game



Overlooking Lake Tahoe

Dear Birthparent(s),

We want to start by thanking you for considering adoption--as it is a most amazing gift. Although difficult, it is a courageous, selfless, and caring act. We do not know what has led you to adoption, but we want to share our story with you.

We were married almost seven years before the birth of our daughter, Kelly, whom we adopted in March 2008. She is the best thing that has ever happened to us. We couldn't be more thrilled about bringing another child into our home through adoption. Adoption has been a wonderful experience for us! We are eager to care for an infant once again, and we want to give Kelly a sibling, making our family complete. We think every child should have a brother or sister with whom to play and make memories with, and we think Kelly will be great big sister. Children and family are our passions, and we feel God made a plan that we should be adoptive parents.

J.C. has dedicated his life to public service and works in state government to create public policy and laws to ensure that all children have access to a high-quality education. After doing public relations work for several years for three state agencies, he went to graduate school in the evenings to get his masters in public administration and now directs his own department and staff. He has worked hard to raise awareness about the importance of education to the public and has been on the radio, TV and quoted in newspaper stories.

Katie has worked with children all her life, and before becoming an elementary school teacher, she worked at our local children's hospital. She finds teaching very rewarding and is grateful for the opportunity to interact with and guide children each and every day. She recognizes all children are unique, each with different talents and abilities.

We struggled with infertility for many years. What we learned is we are meant to be parents and that adoption was, and once again is, the right choice for us. Katie comes from a blended family, and we share the belief that family isn't defined by genetics. We know how much family means to us and how much we will cherish being able to have another child to love and nurture. Your child would be a blessing and a gift enabling us to expand our family and fulfill our dreams.

We love to spend time together and are best friends. Our years together, and the challenges we have faced in starting a family, have made us closer, our relationship stronger, and our love deeper. Our lives with Kelly and with your child will be filled with love, laughter, faith, and kindness. We are eager to expand our family and once again spend our time on diaper changing, midnight feedings, and bedtime songs. Becoming parents has been our most rewarding life experience.

Katie's job as a teacher, only steps away from our house, allows her a lot of time at home and a flexible schedule, including summers off. She enjoys doing crafts, reading, cooking, and being outdoors. A sports and outdoors aficionado, J.C. can't wait to sign up to help coach sports teams or be active in youth groups such as Cub Scouts or Indian Princesses! We know that raising a child carries with it great responsibility and challenges. Your child will have all the opportunities you could hope for, and most importantly, the unconditional love of both our families. We believe education is necessary for a child to be successful in life, and we have made financial plans that will allow our children to attend college and participate in all kinds of activities to broaden their horizons.

We know the impact of adoption is life-long and believe that your feelings are of utmost importance. We were there for Kelly's birth and spent time at the hospital with Kelly and her birthmother. We have continued to stay in contact via letters, e-mail, phone calls, and visits. We did what came naturally, and we will do the same again. We are comfortable with as much or as little contact as you would like to have in the future. We are open to ongoing communication with the family of any child we adopt, through letters, photos, and meetings, if that is desired by you as well. We will always be grateful for the opportunity to raise your child.

We know your decision will be guided by your desire for what is best for your child's future, and we sincerely hope we can be a part of that. Parenthood is amazing, and we promise that we will be the best parents possible. Saying thank you just isn't enough for the life and love you are giving this child. We will be forever appreciative for the miracle of life that you share with us.

Blessings,

J.C. and Katie

