



We will give your child all the love and happiness we have to offer. Your child will always know the story of their birthmother and what a caring and selfless person you are because you are considering adoption out of the greatest love for your child.

## Joe

## Mindy

### Job Description:

Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Tax Partner

Expanded Function Dental Assistant, Office Manager

### Education:

Bachelor Degree in Business Administration

B.A. in English, School of Dentistry, Expanded Function Dental Auxillary Program

### Favorites:

#### Hobby

Golf

#### Hobby

Reading, Movies

#### Movie

Field of Dreams

#### Hero

My Grandfather

#### Family Activity

Going to the Movies

#### Family Activity

Traveling

#### Musical Group

Chicago

#### Musical Group

The Police

#### Memory with a Child

Reading Bedtime Stories

#### Memory with a Child

Sleeping Under the Christmas Tree with My Niece and Nephew

## What We Expect To Like About Being Parents

We can't wait to teach a child about the wonders of life, such as touching the soft hair of our dogs and feeling their cold noses. Anticipating the looks of joy when a child sees the colorful lights of a Christmas tree and enjoying the feeling of grass beneath them as they crawl outside for the first time. The thought of being a parent, watching a child grow, learn, thrive, sometimes struggle...but figure it out, the hugs, kisses, love. Seeing your child become the best person they can be and helping them find their way, all the time being there for them no matter what and sharing all the love we have to give. To us, that is true joy in parenting.

## Our Family Traditions

We have an abundance of family traditions between us. Joe's family gets together for all the holidays and Christmas is spent at his sister's home. Mindy's family too, gets together for all the holidays. Christmas Day is spent at her Aunt Peg and Uncle George's house where Santa comes and pays the little ones a visit. Christmas Eve we gather at our home with both of our families and friends, our favorite night of the year, as we celebrate this joyous holiday with the people we care about and love. We both feel blessed to have grown up in loving homes where family came first. Both of our families have formed close relationships with one another and now spend the holidays together.

## What We Do For Fun

We love to laugh, joke and have fun. We enjoy spending our time with our family and friends and Joe's kids. We like to take our dogs for walks in the park or around our neighborhood. We consider ourselves to be open to a variety of activities. We are happy to go out and be social with a large group of people, or staying home on the couch watching movies together or reading a book. We enjoy traveling with friends and family and recently enjoyed a trip to Las Vegas with a few of Mindy's cousins. Our home is frequently a gathering place for our friends, and it is common to have people stop over for a visit or an impromptu cookout. We also like to spend time with our niece and nephew by taking Maggie (age 6) and Riley (age 9) to the movies or out to eat. Every year around Christmas Maggie and Riley sleep over our house and we play games and watch Christmas shows and sleep under the Christmas tree.

## Our House and Neighborhood



Our home is on the end of a quiet cul-de-sac but quite close to shopping, parks and the local schools. Our house has a fenced in backyard with lots of room to run around or play on the swing set. We have three bedrooms in our home, and a finished basement. We frequently host family and friends for cookouts and dinners, as we love to entertain and spend time with those we are close to. Our neighborhood is filled with families of all ages, and there are always people walking around the block or riding their bikes on the sidewalks. It is a wonderful place to raise a family.



Our Home

## Our Extended Families

**Joe:** I am the middle child in my family, having two sisters while I was growing up in Northeast Ohio. My father was one of 12 children, so I have numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. My parents and sisters (and their families) live close by and Mindy and I often get together with them and my nieces and nephews. I have a great relationship with my parents, sisters and their children and we get together often.

I have four adult children from my previous marriage. The two oldest have graduated from college and the two youngest remain undecided as to whether college is in their future. Mindy and I believe the education of our children is one of our most important responsibilities as parents and I continue to promote college to my two youngest children.

Mindy and I like to spend time with my children by going to movies and playing board games with them. Our favorite board games are Apples to Apples and Cranium. We also enjoy Sunday's together as I like to cook and the children will come over for Sunday dinner or cook-outs during the summer months.

My favorite memories of my children as they were growing up were reading to them when they were very small and playing games. I like to think that I was the fun dad and always enjoyed spending time with them, even if it was watching their favorite cartoons on television.

**Mindy:** Much of my extended family lives nearby and we are blessed to see them often. They are always there for me when I need them. My parents live close by and have been married for 41 years. I talk to or see my parents almost every day. My younger brother also, lives nearby with his wife and their 3 children.

My niece and nephews come over to play and sleep over often and we are able to go to their school activities and sporting events. I was blessed to grow up in the same community with all of my aunts, uncles and cousins, so we spent all of our holidays, vacations, birthdays, etc. with our extended family. Because of that, I consider my cousins to be more like my siblings, and we have continued those family traditions with our own families as adults. As you can imagine, there are lots of family get-togethers. I also feel blessed to have an amazing circle of friends who I have come to consider a part of my family.

After graduating from college, I have spent my career in dentistry. For the last 16 years, I have committed myself to helping others with their health. In my free time, I enjoy doing volunteer work in the community. For the last 7 years, I have been a Big Sister (through Big Brothers Big Sisters) as well as served on their Board. I have also enjoyed working with Habitat for Humanity, The Feel Good Foundation, Meals on Wheels among others.

Our friends and family are so supportive of us to adopt a child. This child will know unconditional love from our AMAZING extended family!



With Joe's Family at Our Wedding



4th of July with Mindy's Parents, Brother and Sister-in-Law, Niece and Nephew

## Volunteer Time

We both spend much of our free time doing various volunteer activities. We believe it is important to "give back" to our community. Not to mention, we really enjoy doing it...and it's how we met! Together we volunteer at our local Soup Kitchen and we are involved in many local organizations that focus on helping kids. As a matter of fact, Mindy has been a Big Sister through Big Brothers Big Sisters for the last 7 years. When we are not volunteering our time, we are attending fundraisers for numerous worthy charities.

Giving back and helping to make the world a little bit better is a common goal we share and we have met so many wonderful people along the way.



With Our Dogs, Atti & Bennie

## Our Pets Are Important To Us

Last year we adopted two Yellow Labrador Retrievers, Atti (age3) and Bennie(8). About 6 months after our elderly Yellow Lab, Buddy, passed away, we decided we couldn't be without a dog in our house any longer. So, we found not one, but two dogs, who are mother and daughter, and adopted them. Atti, short for Attitude, is a bundle of love, and recently became a therapy dog. We take her to nursing homes where she spreads her joy around and puts a smile on the face of everyone she meets. She is a favorite there. She also recently joined the "Paws for Reading" program at our local library, where children read to her, as part of a program to help kids become better, more confident readers. Bennie, the mother, is our quiet dog. She lets her daughter be the star! Atti and Bennie love to be around people, especially children. Our nieces and nephews can't get enough of them. It is wonderful having these dogs, who are more like people, in our home. We can't imagine life without them!



Halloween Trick-or-Treating  
with Our Nephew



Celebration Time!

# Joe & Mindy



Engagement Party



Joe with His Kids



The Next Generation of Cousins  
in Mindy's Family



Making Cupcakes with Our Niece

## Dear Birthparent(s),

Hello. Our names are Mindy and Joe. We are thankful for this opportunity to share our lives with you and we admire your courage to consider an adoption plan. We realize this must be a very difficult time in your life and we would like to thank you for taking the time to read our letter.

We have been planning for a family since the day we were married. We have tried to have our own biological child, but have been unsuccessful. Our struggles with infertility have made our relationship stronger and our commitment to each other and our desire for a family together has become that much more passionate. We have so much love to give and are eager to nurture your baby and provide him or her with all the wonderful opportunities the world has to offer. Upon the arrival of a child into our home, Mindy will be a full time and very happy stay at home mom. Joe is very supportive and will continue to be a wonderful father, as he is dad to four grown children from his previous marriage. Joe's work schedule is very flexible and being a dad is his first priority.

We are both very family oriented and come from loving and supportive families. We look forward to the time when we can teach your child our ideals and the love of family and friends. Your child will be cherished and supported their entire childhood and on into adulthood. We believe every child is unique and special, and we will provide the individual love and nurturing they need to grow as their own person. We will always be there to support them and help them achieve their life's goals. We will raise your child in much the same way we were raised, with a positive outlook on life, lots of encouragement, love and understanding, patience and lots of laughter. We will teach your child the wonders of learning and the value of family. And most importantly, to live life with an open mind and heart with a big smile on their face!

We spend most of our free time together. We love to take walks with our dogs and have cookouts in our backyard with our family and friends. We've traveled a lot together, but we really can't wait to take trips as a family. Your child will be included in all aspects of our lives and we promise to provide letters and pictures of your child as he or she grows. These pictures will provide comfort to you knowing that your child is happy and healthy.

We will teach your child the values of honesty and treating all people with respect and kindness. We believe in the Christian value of helping others less fortunate than ourselves, and we will teach your child that important quality. We also strongly believe in the value of higher education and it will be our goal to ensure your child will receive all the educational opportunities available to him or her.

We will give your child all the love and happiness we have to offer. Your child will always know the story of their birthmother and what a caring and selfless person you are because you are considering adoption out of the greatest love for your child.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us. We wish you happiness and peace always and want to provide you the greatest assurance that your child will be abundantly cared for by loving parents and will be welcomed into our extended family with open arms.

Very truly yours,

**Joe and Mindy**

