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John

Kathy

Job Description:

Supervisor for Electronic Development in Advanced Engineering for an Automotive Component Supplier

Stay-at-Home Mom

Education:

Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering

Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration

Favorites:

Hobby
Golf

Hobby
Working Out

Movie
Apollo 13

Movie
Pirates of the Caribbean

Sport
Football

Sport
Football

Dessert
Strawberry Shortcake

Dessert
Strawberry Shortcake

Magazine
Automobile

Magazine
People

Children:

Tyler & Andrew (Drew) both born August 2006
Jayson born December 2009

Qualities We Love, Admire and Respect in Each Other

What Kathy says about John: John is the ideal husband, friend, and father. We have known each other since we were teens and have gone through many life changes together. I love his laugh and crazy songs he makes up that somehow always rhyme. I admire his convictions, his strength, his patience, and his determination. He is such a great dad. He never complains about changing the dirtiest diaper or comforting an unhappy child. John is very easy going, friendly, and funny. He is also sensitive and very loving. He adores being a dad and is very excited to become a parent again.

What John says about Kathy: Kathy is smart, dedicated, hardworking and fun-loving. She is a great wife and mother to our three boys and I adore her. She loves to spend time reading to the boys or playing with them, letting them climb all over her. She is always thinking of fun and interesting things for the boys to do and for all of us to do together as a family. I could not have a better friend in my life. Kathy takes great care of all of us.

What it Means to Be Parents and Our Strengths

We tried unsuccessfully to have children for many years and went through many procedures for infertility. Over the years, we watched our friends and family raise their children and dreamed of what we'd do with kids of our own. When we finally realized that biological children were not an option, we began to consider adoption. After completing our home study and joining the Adoption by Gentle Care waiting list, we received the best call of our lives. We became the parents of twin boys. Three years later, we were so lucky to welcome another beautiful baby boy through adoption. Our lives are so blessed and we love being parents more than anything. From time to time, we have to pinch ourselves because it's a dream come true. We can't wait to hear our boys in the morning and we love to rock them to sleep at night. We want to give them the best opportunities and many happy memories to carry them through their lives. We want to be their cheerleaders and encourage them in any endeavor they choose.

Our strengths are that we are loving, patient, and supportive. We've been through personal adversity so we are sympathetic to others. We believe that our children should learn respect and we believe in teaching by example. We have both volunteered over the years to help those less fortunate than ourselves and believe that children should learn to help others from an early age.

Our House and Neighborhood



Our house is a two story colonial with four bedrooms, 3 and a half baths with a large kitchen and an open floor plan. It sits on a one half acre lot in a new development. The backyard is large and open for playing outdoor games of any type. The deck is great for cook outs and has evening shade for comfortable outdoor dining. There are over 100 homes in our subdivision and they continue to pop up. The majority of the residences have families with young children. Our immediate neighbors each have 3-4 children of various ages and they often play basketball and roller blade hockey.



Our Home

Our House and Neighborhood, continued



Our Backyard

There is a paved bike trail within walking distance and there are several large playgrounds for children. There are also softball/baseball fields within walking distance. We have a beautiful community park nearby with biking and hiking trails, waterfalls, 3 lakes, numerous playgrounds, baseball and football fields, pavilions for picnics and 2 golf courses. Our city is small and family friendly and it was recently voted one of the top 100 cities in which to live in the country by a popular magazine. The schools are among the best in the state of Ohio.

Our Extended Families

We have so many happy memories of our time spent together with our families.

John is the fifth of seven children. He has 3 brothers and 3 sisters. Most of his family lives in close proximity to Kathy and John. John has many happy childhood memories. Family Christmases were the most memorable. John remembers being coaxed to bed and having a difficult time falling asleep. The excitement was just too much to handle for a little boy. Before the sun came up, all the kids were awake and the family room was strewn with wrapping paper, toys and discarded gift clothes. The shortage of batteries had the kids begging their dad to go to the store to get some. The kids played and assembled toys until they were exhausted. They knew that Christmas was a little more special not because of all the gifts but because of the friends and family that visited their house. John hoped that some day, he could create the same magic for his children. What is most memorable to John is that it wasn't the quantity or the value of what you got, but rather the joy of being a family and how his parents were able to make it so special.

Kathy is the youngest of five children. She has 2 brothers and 2 sisters who are scattered throughout the country. Kathy's most vivid childhood memories were annual beach vacations with the entire family including many nieces and nephews. She remembers bonfires built on the beach and the smell and taste of hot dogs, fresh corn, baked potatoes and roasted marshmallows. The kids would all get up to swim at sunrise and spend the entire day on the beach. In the evenings, Kathy's dad would make grocery bags full of popcorn to eat while the whole family played board games in teams.

We spend most holidays with one family or the other and Christmas and Thanksgiving are usually spent with both of our families. We always know where we are going for the holidays because there are only a few family members with big enough houses to accommodate the entire families.



Some of Our Extended Family at the Adoption Finalization for Our Twins



Some of Kathy's Extended Family... Are the Burgers Ready Yet?



The Whole Gang on Vacation

What's Important in Our Lives

Family takes a priority in our lives. We have a strong and loving marriage and we are best friends. We spend a great deal of time with extended families but we also enjoy spending time with just our children. A perfect day is watching the boys as they learn and experience things for the first time.

We also take time out to exercise in our home gym, run, golf and ride bicycles. We often vacation at the beach in North Carolina or just picnic at the park or go to the zoo, amusement parks and children's museums.



Together in the Hammock



Beach Paradise



Just Relaxing

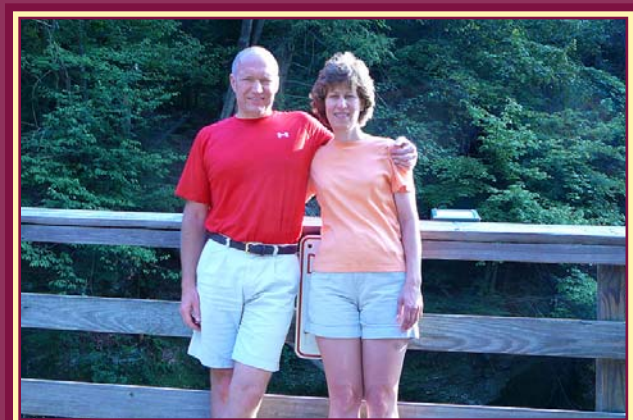
John
&
Kathy



Riding the Tree Swing at
a Resort in Pennsylvania



Ready to Take the Plunge at a Park
Near Home



Enjoying the Local Park

Dear Birthparent(s),

Thank you for taking the time to learn a little bit about us. We hope that we have given you an idea of who we are as individuals and as a family.

After trying to have our own biological children and encountering infertility problems we chose adoption and we could not be happier. We like to think that those early challenges made us stronger as a couple and made us appreciate having children even more. We love our boys more than life itself and our happiest days are spent together as a family. We are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to become parents again through adoption.

We both come from large families and believe that having siblings is a wonderful privilege and the foundation of many happy memories. We also want our children to have the bond of adoption.

We feel that we have been tremendously blessed by our adoptions and we want to open our home and our hearts to another infant. We have a lot of love to share and we believe in filling each day with laughter and happy times. We love reading books, giving raspberries on tummies, tickling, playing hide and seek, and giving rides on Thomas the Tank Engine.

As our children grow we want them to know as much about their adoption and birth parents as possible. We want them to know about how special he/she is to us and to you. Your child's life started with you and we will always respect that fact. We will keep in contact with you through letters and pictures. It is a special trust that biological parents have in the adoptive parents and we respect and feel an obligation to you for your decision to place that trust in us.

We will give them all of our love and attention. We have some experience in child rearing behind us now so we know some of the dos and don'ts. Since we wanted a family for so many years, we truly appreciate every moment and treasure every "first". We continue to expose our children to lots of new experiences and they have wonderful, outgoing personalities and lots of friends to play with. We believe that formal education is very important for our kids but beyond that we believe that the lessons that they (and we) learn everyday are the most important. We provide constant encouragement, praise, hugs and lots of love and try to find new and exciting ways to use our imagination each day. We also provide spiritual guidance for our children and teach them to be compassionate, loving and respectful to others and to trust in God's wisdom.

John's work schedule is flexible and he is able to accommodate the children's needs. He has been with his company for 10 years so he has accumulated vacation and personal days to spend with his family.

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John and Kathy

