



We want to sincerely thank you for viewing our profile and considering the possibility of adoption. Though we are only one of the many options and choices you are faced with right now we believe that you know what's best for your child and hope that you follow your heart where ever that may lead you.

Matt

Dana

Job Description:

Software Developer for a University

Accounts Receivable for a large Medical Practice

Education:

Bachelors Degree in Mechanical Engineering

3 1/2 Years of College (Psychology)

Favorites:

Disney Movie
Jungle Book

Disney Movie
Lady and the Tramp

Dream Job
Computer Game Tester

Dream Job
Disney Imaginer

Hobby
Fishing, Hiking, & Reading

Hobby
Gardening, Painting, & Hiking

Song Writer
Elton John

Song Writer
Nora Jones

Holiday Tradition
Family Taffy Pull

Children:
None

How We Met and How Long We've Been Together

The story of our relationship is a long one. We first met as children attending a small country church. At first we each thought the other had "cooties" but everyone did at 8 years of age. It was later we decided that the other was really just "cute". Our first date was Matt's Junior Prom, and we've never looked back. We dated all though college and we were engaged for several years before getting married. We have spent more than half of our lives together, and expect to continue to date each other for the rest of our lives. We currently have been married for over 11 years, but it feels like it was just yesterday when we went on our first date together. We are truly each other's best friend and would have it no other way. Over the years we have "adopted" a dog (Joey) and a stray cat (Stinky). They both have given us much joy over the years, but we wish very much to complete our family with a child.

Why We Want to Adopt

We have always wanted a family and after years of being a couple we are ready to become a family. We are unable to have biological children and we long for a child to complete our family. Even if we were able to have children on our own it has always been a desire of ours to adopt a child as well. We think we have a lot to offer a child. We know that our extended family will accept our children as part of their family without hesitation. We have already discussed our decision to adopt with them and they were overwhelmingly excited. All of us are looking forward to bringing the child home and introducing them to the whole family. We very much are looking forward to getting to know this child and in turn helping them discover the world. It is a wondrous world that we live in and the responsibility of showing the world to a child will be a tremendous joy for us. There is so much to share and learn, as this child grows up. We are sure that it will seem like just a few short days before your child is wandering, starry eyed, through their first day at school, their first trip to COSI, or going to that first team tryout. These are all things we are excited about having the opportunity to discover again through a child's eyes.

Our House and Neighborhood



Our house doesn't look big from the outside but has four bedrooms and three full baths with a finished basement. We have a living room upstairs and a family entertainment room downstairs. We built this house ten years ago and have always envisioned raising a family here. Our yard is good size and has a lot of space for a jungle gym and swings. We have quite a bit of room and have put a lot of work into our house to make it ready for a family.

We live in Ohio in a close knit relatively new neighborhood with many families near by. The majority of our immediate neighbors have children of all ages and we are always very busy on Halloween with many spooky ghouls and goblins stopping by. We also have a local playground right around the corner and a community swimming pool not far away. There are soccer and baseball fields, and hiking paths at the local park that is a great place for family fun.



Our Home



Movie Night at Home

Our House and Neighborhood, continued

Our community takes a lot of pride in its schools and our school system is one of the best in the area. These schools will give this child a wonderful education as well as a terrific opportunity to explore the creative world around them.

Our Extended Families



Dana's Extended Family

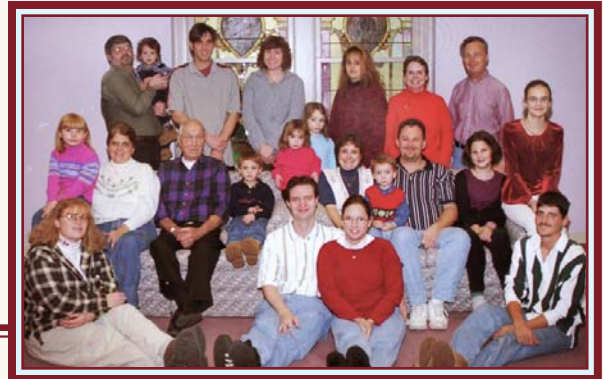
Our combined family is unique because our families have been friends and have known each other for thirty years or more. We grew up together with our families attending the same church in the same small town; that makes ours a very close family. We have several teachers and musicians in the family, so music, fun, and creativity are always in abundance. Matt has four siblings and I have one brother. We also have a total of seven nieces and nephews so there are lots of cousins with which to play. Almost every weekend is spent with our families, whether it's meeting out for dinner or staying in and playing games.

Family football parties and annual Christmas taffy pulls are a tradition we look forward to sharing with a new member of the family. Pumpkin carving, hiking, camping, wienie roasts and trips to the farm are all activities we are looking forward to sharing with a child.



Sharing a Book

Qualities We Love, Admire and Respect in Each Other



Matt's Extended Family

Dana by Matt: My wife is a wonderfully gifted woman with a selfless and joyful heart. I know that Dana will be a wonderful and loving mother because she has taught me to love and how to be loved. She has so much love to give that it is hard to find the words to express the depth and range of her capacity to love. She has an infectious way of enjoying life that I can only see as a benefit for any child.

Dana has always been drawn to volunteer work and helping others. In high school she volunteered in local elementary schools and for the past six years she and Joey have worked locally with Therapy Dogs International. They have spent a lot of time visiting patients in different health facilities and bringing them a lot of joy. The work takes a great deal of commitment and perseverance but that was greatly outweighed by the rewards they received in return. I have seen first hand the kind of joy that she and Joey brought to patients in hospitals and nursing homes. Not to mention that the staff of those facilities looked forward to seeing her and Joey as much as the patients. I am sure that she will be a wonderful mother to any boy or girl. I know that our children will grow up knowing, without a doubt, that they are loved unconditionally.

Matt by Dana: My husband will be a wonderful father. It was his patience and capacity for love that first drew me to him. At group gatherings he is often found sitting at the kids' table playing games or just talking. Children always gravitate toward him, and he really enjoys being a big brother and an uncle. He loves the idea that he can provide positive guidance to young minds. Helping others is a big part of who he is, whether he's opening doors for strangers or helping to rebuild homes, churches, or schools. Matt has always been a very generous man. My father and Matt are part of a group that travels this area of the country volunteering their services for building projects. He has a gift for solving problems and helping others, and this is a trait that I know he will pass on to our children.

He is a brilliant man with a love of knowledge and learning. I believe his favorite part of being a father will be the chance to create an atmosphere of exploration for this child. He will especially enjoy museum trips, science fair projects, and nightly home work. He has never stopped learning and truly believes life is a journey of learning that never ends. Matt will be a very involved father from teaching a child to walk to teaching them to drive. He doesn't want to miss any part of this experience.



With Our Pets at Home



Vacationing in Hawaii

Matt & Dana



A Formal Date



Touring Texas Gardens



Matt & Joey Hiking



Dana & Joey Take 5

Dear Birthparent(s),

We want to sincerely thank you for viewing our profile and considering the possibility of adoption. We can only imagine how difficult and lonely a decision like this must be for you. But we want you to know how incredibly brave and selfless we know you are, in making these tough choices.

Let us tell you a bit about our past. We've known each other our whole lives. There has always been a deep friendship between us since the age of eight years old. This began when we attended Sunday school and were in the church youth group organization together. It was in high school that we began to see each other differently. More than just being friends; we started to fall in love. On our first official date there was no weirdness at all. It still amazes us how easily the transition was from best friends to soul mates.

Though we attended different high schools we remained a very close couple with clear dreams and goals for the future. We knew at a very young age that we were meant to spend the rest of our lives together and worked very hard on our relationship. After high school graduation we both attended college at a local university. Matt proposed after we had been dating three and a half years. We got married three and a half years later because it was important for Matt to finish his Engineering degree so we would have a good foundation on which to build our future. Last June we celebrated our eleventh year wedding anniversary and we still celebrate the anniversary of our first date eighteen years ago.

Recently we spent five years living just outside Dallas, Texas and loved it! We made some very good friends and had many good times there. Though we enjoyed our time in Texas, it gave us a new appreciation for being close to our families and a dream for starting one of our own. The decision to wait until we were back home in Ohio, close to our own families was an easy one. Home would be where this child would have not only our unconditional love but the love and support of both our extended families.

Though adoption was not our original plan for how we would start our family it has been a journey that can only be explained by saying "it just feels right". Much like our falling in love many years ago, being adoptive parents feels like another good fit for us. We come from different family backgrounds, which we believe gives us a unique perspective and strength to be parents of an adopted child.

Dana's parents have been married forty years now and they are a very close family that shares everything. Her younger brother has always been one of her best friends and they remain very close. She is lucky to still be blessed with all four of her Grandparents. These are wonderful people who are full of love and life. Music and art were a big part of her childhood. Her family is full of musicians, teachers, and creative people. They just love being with each other, whether it's camping trips or just making smores in the back yard and sharing the events of the week. Unconditional love, lasting friendships and support are things that have surrounded her since childhood and she will pass on to her children.

Matt comes from a larger family with three sisters and one brother. His family all lives very close and have many family gatherings and traditions that we want to share and pass on. For example every Christmas the entire family gets together to make taffy from scratch. The taffy pull is a long standing tradition that has been handed down over many generations and is a terrific way for the family to spend time together during the holidays. Our parents live near by and were all so very excited to learn of our plan to start a family through adoption. They can't wait to be grandparents again. They've already begun telling people that they have a new grandchild on the way and this special child hasn't even been born yet. They will all be dotting and spoiling grandparents, we're sure.

Our plan as parents of an adopted child is to keep the lines of communication open at all times. We want them to know from the very beginning how adoption works and the difficult and selfless choice you made that brought them to us. Pictures of you and your family, if you wish, will be shared with this child from a very young age. We have plans of making a scrapbook of the adoption process. Our hope is to involve the child in sending you pictures and letters on a regular basis.

We take our responsibilities and commitments very seriously. Like you, we do not make this decision lightly but with the strength of our convictions. With the knowledge that like our marriage this too would be a life long commitment of unconditional love.

Though we are only one of the many options and choices you are faced with right now we believe that you know what's best for your child and hope that you follow your heart. Thank you again for allowing us this opportunity to tell you a bit about ourselves. We pray that the burden of these choices you are faced with will be lightened as you can know in your heart that this child will be loved.

Very Sincerely,

Matt and Dana

