



Rich

Annie

Job Description:

Computer Programmer / IT

Dental Hygienist

Education:

Bachelor of Science in
Computer Information Systems

Bachelor of Science in Dental
Hygiene

Favorites:

Dessert

Anything with Ice Cream

Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake

Dream Job

Drummer

Dream Job

Cake Decorator

Musical Group

Dave Matthews Band

Musical Group

Rascal Flats

Sport to Watch

Football

Sport to Watch

Hockey

Tradition

Football Parties

Tradition

Birthday Parties

Children:

None

Our Plan for Becoming Parents

If adoption is the choice you make, then your child will be loved with open arms and will be raised in an environment of stability and joy. We love spending time together, and sharing the joyful things that life has to offer, and we can't wait to share that joy with your child. We hope to be able to share these memorable moments and more with your child. We would show your child all the blessings that life has to offer through love and support. Your child will know what it is like to be showered with love and that there is always room for love from everyone, and that you are a part of this love.

For many years we anticipated being parents. When we first built our home, we purposely built a home that was very spacious, and suitable for us to build a family in. We wanted a home that we could grow into as a family. We both are one of four children, and we had hoped to also have four children of our own some day, because we enjoyed being part of a big family when we were young. However, as the years past, the rooms remained empty, and our hearts have been left empty and broken as well. We have joyfully watched our nephews grow up. We've always enjoyed taking them on little vacations, to the park, to the zoo, and various other places. We always would have them come to our house to spend the night. We'd have them come over every Christmas to make cookies and decorate our tree. Although these are very fond memories, we had always hoped that we could share these kinds of memories with a child of our own. We've struggled with not being able to have children for a long time. We have planned our lives around having children for many years. We had decided that Rich would work full time, and Annie would only work 2-3 days per week so she could spend as much time as possible with the children. We hope to be able to adopt at least 2 children, so that each of them can have a sibling to grow up with, and enjoy life with.

We enjoy going on vacations with each other and the family. Every year, we go on a vacation to a new place we have never been before. We love to experience and see as much of the world as we can. We enjoy a variety of scenery, including mountains, beaches, big cities, and other beautiful sites. We had the pleasure of visiting 3 different countries in Europe including Prague, Czech Republic, Paris, France, and Leipzig, Germany with Rich's family. It was amazing standing under the Eiffel Tower at night when it lights up every hour on the hour. We also loved the beautiful, centuries old buildings and cathedrals throughout Europe. We've also have been to other very fun and exciting places such as Disney World. We went to Disney World with Annie's brother and his wife, and their two sons. We had a great time with the kids at the Magic Kingdom where we rode Space Mountain with the boys at least 4 times! We of course rode all of the other famous rides there, and had a wonderful time! This year our vacation spot was Topsail Island, North Carolina, where we went with Annie's entire family, and we loved every minute of the trip. We stayed in a beautiful beach house, and spent lots of time hanging out on the beach, and playing all kinds of games. We have also been to Gatlinburg, Tennessee where we went horseback riding together, and enjoyed all of the interesting and fun nature preserves and other attractions. We plan to go back there again some day.

Vacations

Our House and Neighborhood



We live in a nice, quiet, suburban neighborhood in Ohio. There are tons of children in our neighborhood of all ages. On Halloween, we give away around 30 pounds of candy, to what seems to be thousands of excited kids! About a block from our house, there is a nice playground with a baseball field, Frisbee golf, playground equipment, and a nice walking trail. Our house is also only a block away from the elementary schools and middle school. It's a very welcoming neighborhood, and a really nice neighborhood for a child to grow up in.



Our Home

Our House and Neighborhood, continued



Rich with Our Friend and Our Friend's Kid at the Halloween Party

The town we live in provides lots of things to do and places to go, including public pools, ice cream shops, parks, as well as gymnastics and recreational centers. Our community provides many activities for children, including park activities at which they provide live music, ice cream, and games for kids. There is also a zoo, museums, nature trails, botanical gardens, amusement parks, and other fun places to go within a short drive from our house.

Our house is a 2 story, 4 bedroom house that we had built 5 years ago. It's a very cozy and spacious home, that has a big backyard and a field behind our house for playing all kinds of games. Lining the back of the field, there is also a woods and a creek, where we frequently see deer come out in the early morning and evening. It's a very pretty house that we plan to stay in for a long time.

Our Extended Families

We frequently get together with family and friends, and enjoy playing both inside and outside games with them. Cookouts are one of our favorite things to do when the weather is nice. We like to have a fire out on our friends or family member's deck or patio and make s'mores. We also like to have cornhole tournaments. :) Just being together is something that all of us feel thankful for. We also love to have our family and friends over for holidays. It is so much fun for us to cook a big holiday meal, and share wonderful memories with our loved ones. We are so looking forward to sharing these good times and memories with a child we have welcomed into our lives and into our hearts.



The Whole Family on the Deck of the Beach House Where We Stayed in North Carolina



With the First Addition to Our Family, Sadie the Yellow Lab at Christmas

Our Pet

Although we have not yet been able to have a child in our home, we do have a very special creature in our heart and in our home, and that special creature is the kindest, and most lovable Yellow Labrador you've ever seen and her name is Sadie. We adopted Sadie when she was six weeks old, and she stole our heart from day one. For the longest time, we were known as "Sadie's parents" in our neighborhood. She is a very friendly and energetic dog. She is also a very playful and curious dog, especially when she was a puppy. One day, Sadie was feeling a little bored, and saw a little loop of Berber carpeting sticking up that looked very fun to play with. So, she tugged and yanked on it, and when more came up, the more excited she got, and the more she pulled. She pulled and pulled till she had a string of Berber carpet that was the length of the entire room. She was so proud of herself, and she thought she looked very pretty with the string of Berber yarn, draped around her neck like a scarf. The momma (Annie) came downstairs and Sadie was laying on the family room floor, with her front paws crossed, and the Berber carpet string draped around her so beautifully. Luckily for Sadie, she was in good hands. We now laugh at this moment, and realize that although that incident was very unfortunate, the memory is priceless, and so is Sadie.

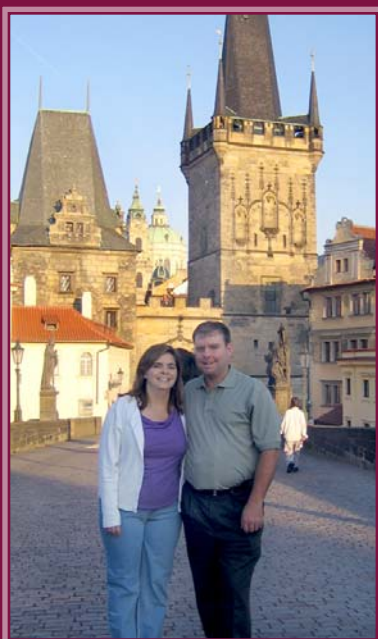


With Annie's Family at Her Dad's Birthday Party



Enjoying a Sunset Boat Cruise in North Carolina

Rich & Annie



Standing on the St. Charles Bridge in Prague



At Our House on Thanksgiving Day



Annie (Snow White) and Rich (Elwood Blues - Equipped with Bears Tie) at Our Friend's House for a Halloween Party



At Cades Cove in Tennessee Near Gatlinburg Where We Rode Horseback



Standing in Front of Our Friend's House Next Door Before Going to the Bears vs Browns Pre-season Game (Rich Is a Die Hard Bears Fan)

Dear Birthparent(s),

Hello, our names are Rich and Annie. Nine years ago we met each other through Annie's sister. We immediately were glued to each other at every get-together our friends had. Our friends would joke about how we probably only talked to each other the entire time. We were instantly connected, for the first three months we were inseparable as friends. We went to movies, amusement parks and hung out with our friends, with whom to this day we all stay in touch. Shortly after we began dating, we were engaged. We were married in August of 2001.

We hope to be able to share these memorable moments and more with your child. We would show your child all the blessings that life has to offer through love and support. Your child will know what it is like to be showered with love and that there is always room for love from everyone, and that you are a part of this love.

We can only imagine how difficult of a decision you are facing right now. Obviously, you love your child with all of your heart, and want to be certain that you are making the best decision you possibly can for the benefit of your child. We have the deepest compassion and understanding for this most difficult decision you are faced with, and what you are going through in your heart right now. We want to reassure you that your pain and sacrifice does not go without notice. We will always tell your child about your love for them and how you had only their best interest at heart, even when your own heart was broken. We will keep a story book with pictures and letters to help convey this strong love to them. With every special moment of your child's life, we plan to share these moments with you through pictures and letters so that you have some peace about your child's future. We also want to make sure you know that we are both prepared to help your child through any kind of difficulties that he/she may face throughout their life.

Love is ultimately the most important thing in a person's life. Knowing that you have family and friends that love you and are there for you is something that everyone needs. In addition to providing love and support, we also plan to ensure that any child we adopt will be provided with a good education. We feel strongly about providing the child with the financial means to go to college. We plan to setup a college fund when the child is a baby. We both had to put ourselves through college, and this made it very difficult and stressful since we had to work full time and pay for all of the expenses related to going to school on our own. By working full time, we missed out on experiencing college life, and we also were delayed in finishing our degrees. We were very fortunate to at least have a lot of emotional support from family and friends. Through this experience, we feel fortunate that we will be able to help provide a more fulfilling experience of going to college for our adopted child.

If adoption is the choice you make, then your child will be loved with open arms and will be raised in an environment of stability and joy. We love spending time together, and sharing the joyful things that life has to offer, and we can't wait to share that joy with your child. It is so exciting and fun for us to watch children experience things for the first time, that adults tend to sometimes take for granted. We can't wait to be able to listen to and answer the endless questions driven by curiosity, asking why? Sharing holiday traditions like trick-or-treating, making Rich's grandma's sweet rolls, pies, and cookies at Thanksgiving and Christmas, decorating the Christmas tree, and going on Easter egg hunts are just a handful of the memories we greatly anticipate building with your child. Rest assured, love and wonderful memories are something that your child will be guaranteed to experience growing up in our home.

Thank you for taking the time to read our letter, and for the privilege of considering us as adoptive parents.

Sincerely,

Rich and Annie

