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Qualities We Admire In Each Other

Sheila about Steve - From the moment I met Steve I fell in love with his personality as does everyone that meets him. There isn't a day that goes by when he doesn't make me laugh. Steve is the most caring and loving man that will do anything for you. I can't begin to count the number of times he has stopped to help a total stranger while we were out walking our dog. The thing I love most about Steve is seeing the smile he gets on his face when he is around children; he literally lights up. Steve can always be found right in the middle of all the kids playing at any party or family gathering. Steve is my best friend and I can't wait to start a family together.

Steve about Sheila - I met my wife Sheila while I was helping some friends coach a woman's softball team. We immediately hit it off and we were married a short time later. Sheila is the kindest, sweetest and most caring person I have ever met. What I adore about her is her love of life, family, and most importantly her godchild and little nieces. She is extremely artistic, creative and possesses such incredible vision especially when she's decorating our home with her own handmade creations during the holidays. Sheila is going to make such a wonderful mother, and I can't wait until she's able to pass all her great qualities along to a child.

How Adoption Has Affected Us

Written by Steve: Adoption has affected us personally because I was adopted when I was five years old. I have always considered myself very fortunate to have a loving family open their home and hearts to give me such a wonderful life. From the moment I was adopted I became part of the family and was shown more love than any child could ever want. Over the years Sheila and I have shared in many of the great joys of being an adopted child such as meeting my biological brother right before our wedding and having him share in that special day with us. My adopted parents, although they have both passed away, have always been and will always be my family. I am truly grateful for the love and support they have given me, and all the wonderful life experiences that I have had because of the blessing of adoption. We have both been together through quite a few aspects of adoption that has given us an insight into knowing what to expect and how to guide a young child along their journey through life.

What It Means To Be Parents

Being a parent is one of the greatest gifts anyone can be given and we can't wait to have that opportunity. We know it's not going to be easy and parenting comes with a great deal of ups and downs, but we are both ready and excited to start our family. We will try to provide the best home environment, education, guidance and whatever else he/she will need as they grow up into adulthood. We plan on passing along all the values our parents taught us and instilled in us growing up, that made us who we are today. We will encourage and be supportive of all his/her decisions and will be there for them every step of the way. Most of all we will love them unconditionally forever.

Our House & Neighborhood



Ohio has always been the place we have called home where we can be close to our friends and family and raise a child in a community that offers so much. We live in a two story colonial with plenty of room for a child to run around and a neighborhood full of kids who are always outside playing. The elementary, middle school and high school are all within a mile of where we live along with a library, playgrounds, shopping and numerous restaurants.



Our Home

Steve

Sheila

Job Description:

Regional Media Integration Manager

Registered Senior Client Associate

Education:

Graduated from the US Army School of Medics

College Degree in Marketing Management, Series 7, Series 63 and Series 66 Licenses

Favorites:

Hobby

Golf Club Repair

Hobby

Jewelry Making

Form of Exercise

Running

Form of Exercise

Walking / Bike Riding

Magazine

Rolling Stone

Magazine

In Style

Thing To Cook

Pancakes

Thing To Cook

Chili and Pasta

Memory with Spouse

Traveling

Memory with Spouse

Wedding

Children:

None

House & Neighborhood, (continued)



The Back of Our House

Our home is within walking distance from the most beautiful park that has miles of trails, a bike path and lakes for kayaking. Along with all of that, they offer activities throughout the year such as Easter egg hunts, pumpkin walks, concerts and learning events for everyone in the family. A lot of our time is spent in the park walking our Golden Retriever on the trails or biking and kayaking all throughout the summer. We both love the outdoors and like to stay active and where we live allows us to do that. We look forward to creating new memories with a child who will make it that much more special and enjoyable.

Our Extended Family

We are both blessed to have families that are so supportive and couldn't be more excited for us and our decision to adopt. Your child is going to be welcomed into two very loving families who have so much love and affection to give.

Sheila's Family - My parents have been married for 43 years and are such great roll models for Steve and I. They recently retired from our family business where they both worked together for many years and now are looking forward to spending a lot of their free time with the newest addition to our family. We are very close to my parents and enjoy going to dinner, having cookouts and just being around them and the rest of our family. My younger brother is married and has two young girls who couldn't be more excited to have a new playmate join the family. Steve and I love to take our nieces for the weekend and try to do it as often as possible, they are such a joy to be around and they are always making us laugh.

Steve's Family - Although both of my adopted parents have passed away, I am very fortunate to have a wonderful extended family that is always there for support and guidance. Both of my adopted parents have very large families with 10 brothers and sisters on each side and several generations of nieces and nephews as well. Although we don't have as many family reunions as we used to, we still rely on and share in many of the life changes that we experience. Being adopted by this wonderful family has been a blessing. I would love to be able to open our home and share our family with a beautiful child in need of loving parents.

Our Wonderful Pet

We have a ten year old Golden Retriever Barkley who we adore and is currently the baby of the house. We both love animals and grew up having a dog in our home. Barkley is the most loving, laid back dog you will ever meet. He loves children and is so gentle with them. When our nieces come over he immediately runs for his tennis ball because he knows they will play with him. They throw it as far as they can and he always comes back with it but he doesn't just drop it, he will toss it right to the bottom of their feet. Barkley definitely keeps us healthy and active because of the number of walks we take him on. He is such a joy because of the unconditional love he gives.



Walking in the Park with Barkley



Sheila's Family



Steve's Family

Our Leisure Time

We love spending time together; aside from when Steve is golfing and Sheila is making jewelry or decorating, all of our free time is enjoyed together. Our ten year old Golden Retriever Barkley gets us out walking almost every day; we take him to the park to run through the woods as we get a lot of exercise chasing him. We also love to ride our bikes through the park, kayak and go for long drives. In the summer we enjoy having cookouts with neighborhood friends and family. Throughout the winter we like to go to the movies, shop, or just stay in and work on a project in our home. At least once a year we head to the beach for a vacation to relax. Florida and Mexico are our two favorite destinations, although there are so many other places we want to visit and can't wait to explore them with a child.



Christmas Cheer



Sheila with Our Nieces

Steve
&
Sheila



Relaxing At Home



On Our Way to Dinner
with Family



Vacation in Florida



Steve with Our Niece, Natalie

Dear Birthparent(s),

Before we tell you about ourselves we want you to know what a selfless decision you are making for your child. Although we don't understand the difficult and painful emotions you are feeling, we do know it takes someone with incredible courage, bravery and unselfish love to consider adoption.

We met playing softball when Sheila was asked by a co-worker to play on the team and Steve was asked by a friend to help coach. We both grew up playing sports and we are very active so it was a good match from the very beginning. We quickly became friends and enjoyed spending time together as we discovered how much we had in common. By the end of our first season we were inseparable, began dating, and three short years later we were married. To this day we still break out our softball gloves every once in a while and play catch. Our relationship is stronger than ever because of the amount of love and respect we have for each other, we are the best of friends.

After years of trying to get pregnant and many fertility treatments we decided to adopt. Because Steve was adopted when he was 5 years old, it seemed like an easy and almost natural decision for us to make. We both know how blessed he was to be brought into such a loving home where he was immediately part of the family, loved unconditionally and cared for. We would love to be given the same opportunity to do the same for your child.

Being a parent is one of the greatest gifts anyone can be given and we can't wait to have that opportunity. We know it's not going to be easy and parenting comes with a great deal of ups and downs, but we are both ready and excited to start our family. We will try to provide the best home environment, education, guidance and whatever else he/she will need as they grow up into adulthood. We plan on passing along all the values our parents taught us and instilled in us growing up, that made us who we are today. We will encourage and be supportive of all his/her decisions and will be there for them every step of the way. Most of all we will love them unconditionally forever.

We plan on being very open with your child about their adoption from a very young age and plan to answer any questions he/she may have. There is no bigger sacrifice than choosing adoption and we will make sure that he/she knows what you did to make sure they have the best life possible. We promise to give this child an amazing amount of love, lots of support with achieving their dreams, and guidance every step of the way as they make their journey into adult life. We can tell you that your son or daughter will laugh often, seldom cry, and have a very happy life with two parents that adore him/her. If you wish to have letters and photos of your child as they grow, we would be happy to send them to you! After all, you are making OUR dreams come true if you pick us to be your baby's Mom and Dad.

We cannot wait to adopt so we can share our lives with a child. Our relationship is very strong, we love and respect each other and we are the best of friends. Bringing a child into our lives will make what we already have so much more special. We have such a wonderful support group of many friends and family who couldn't be happier and more excited for us and can't wait for the arrival of a baby. From walking in the park with our dog, to taking little day trips and traveling, we plan on including your child in every part of our life.

Family has always been an important part of our lives, we both grew up in large families with a lot of Aunts, Uncles and many cousins who we are still very close with. We were raised with wonderful parents who instilled good values and morals in us and we plan to pass along those same qualities to your child.

Thank you for getting to know us and considering us to raise your child. We are looking forward to bringing a child into our life and we promise to be the best parents we possibly can.

Sincerely,

Steve and Sheila

