

We are committed to giving this child every opportunity that life has to offer. We understand that adoption is a very difficult decision for you. We support you and are in awe of your strength to make the most selfless decision for your child by choosing adoption. Thank you for reading about us. We wish you peace and good health.

### How We Met

We met in March of 2001 via the internet. We both had profiles on Matchmaker.com. Tom emailed Julie first. Julie liked emailing and talking on the phone with Tom so she told him pretty quickly she would like to meet in person. They met 10 days after their initial email. Tom is from an European country. Julie had never met anyone from Europe and little did she know what a world traveler she'd become.

We knew right away that we didn't want to date anyone else. Through our years of dating we have traveled a lot. In March of 2006 while traveling abroad, Tom proposed in Hong Kong. We got married in April of 2007 (in Ohio). Our wedding day was perfect.

### Our Passions

We believe in helping and volunteering. We were foster parents for an animal rescue group from 2004-2005. We would take in one dog at a time and foster it until it was permanently adopted. We learned a lot about various kinds of dogs as we fostered all shapes and sizes. Most of the dogs we had did not come from a good situation. Many were abused and scared. With lots of love and a little patience we were able to make a difference in these dogs' lives. By the time we fostered our 10th dog, we were ready to adopt her for ourselves. She was Julie's birthday present to herself in August of 2005. Leah has brought lots of joy and laughter into our lives. She is an 8 year old black spaniel mix.

**Julie** also volunteered at the animal shelter for 3.5 years walking dogs once a week. This gave her the chance to help socialize the dogs, giving them lots of love and attention before they became adopted. This was a very rewarding experience for her.

Most recently Julie has started volunteering at the local hospital in the nursery department once a week. This has been a wonderful experience for her.

**Tom** volunteers with programs through work. His team adopted a highway and spent time picking up litter. His latest volunteer effort was helping with Habitat for Humanity. This helped him learn skills he can put to use on their own home.

### Our House and Neighborhood



We purchased our home together in October of 2005. We are in a nice suburb close to plenty of activities such as shopping, going to the park or out to dinner. We have a 2 story house with a finished basement. We have one empty bedroom just waiting for a baby. The community is very supportive of families and is in a good school district; which is continuing to grow. A new high school is currently being constructed. There are local pools that we want to take the child to because Tom is an active swimmer. He has competed all over the world. We hope the baby/child will enjoy the water as much as Tom does.



Our Home

### Tom

### Julie

#### Job Description:

Team Leader in Information Services

Executive Secretary

#### Education:

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Master's Degree in Computer Science

Bachelor's Degree in Music, Minor in Spanish

#### Favorites:

**Childhood Toy**  
Legos

**Childhood Toy**  
Barbies

**Dessert**  
Chocolate Ice Cream

**Dessert**  
My Mom's Coconut Pie

**Form of Exercise**  
Swimming

**Form of Exercise**  
Yoga

**Hobby**  
Landscaping

**Hobby**  
Reading

**Movie**  
James Bond Movies

**Movie**  
St. Elmo's Fire

#### Children:

None

## Our House and Neighborhood, continued



With Our Dog Leah in Our Back Yard

We enjoy going to the state and county fairs. We'd love to have a child to add to this tradition. Another activity we enjoy is going to a local park with our dog Leah. She enjoys her walks. After our walks we usually get ice cream for ourselves and Leah. (She's allowed to have vanilla.) We would love to have a child to enjoy this activity with as well. Tom also hopes to share his love for skiing with this child.



With Julie's Parents and Grandma at Christmas

## Our Extended Families

**Julie** is an only child. Her mother's side of the family is very small as her mom is an only child. Her parents live about an hour south of her and Tom. She has a couple of family members nearby whom they visit about once a month. Additional family is about 2 hours away. On that side of the family there are grandparents, several aunts, uncles and cousins. They get together a couple times a year.

**Tom's** family still lives in Europe. This includes his parents, brother, sister-in-law, aunts, and cousins. We speak with his parents a couple of times a month via a webcam so we are able to actually see each other. We have seen everyone in person by either traveling over there or them coming here once a year. Tom also has family in Illinois which we see once a year during the holidays.

We have several friends nearby that we socialize with regularly. Most of them are married with children. Our friends feel like extended family to us. We go out to dinner or visit each other's homes. We like to go to musical theater productions together. We also play games such as board games or Wii. Our friends are hoping that we will have a little one of our own soon so that we can see the kids interact.



With Tom's Brother, Sister-in-Law and Parents at Our Wedding

## Traveling

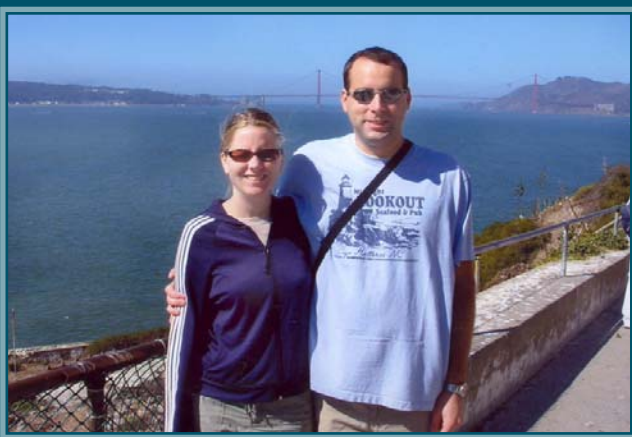


Traveling in Europe

Tom and Julie have traveled a lot in the past 7 years. Before they met Tom was a competitive swimmer and competed all over the world. Now that he and Julie are married they have traveled to Europe three times. They've been to Paris where Tom's ability to speak French came in handy. They've been to Ireland and Phuket, Thailand. Their honeymoon was a whirlwind trip to the south of France, Italy, Monaco and Switzerland. We have also traveled to the western part of the United States including San Francisco. We see ourselves continuing to travel once we have a child. We plan to take the child with us so he/she can experience all the cultures and languages we have. Tom is fluent in German, French and of course, English. This child will definitely learn to speak additional languages aside from English.



Christmas with Our Dog Leah



San Francisco, California

# Tom & Julie



France



Niagara Falls



Ireland



Thailand

## Dear Birthparent(s),

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us. We can't imagine all the emotions you must be experiencing right now. If you decide that adoption is the right decision for you and your baby, we hope you will consider giving us the opportunity to become parents for your child.

Our names are Julie and Tom. We are complete as a couple but want to further complete our family with a baby. We hope you will give us that chance. Because we have traveled all over the world, we want to include a child on our adventures as well. With Tom speaking three languages and his extended family living in Europe this child will have the chance to learn about other cultures.

This child will be raised in a house filled with support, encouragement, and education. There will be opportunities such as learning to play a musical instrument or playing sports. Most importantly this child will be loved unconditionally. We will raise this child to have high self-esteem, a solid belief in oneself, tolerance of all around him/her and the importance of helping others. We will encourage him/her to pursue their talents and dreams. We plan to provide this child with a broad variety of fun and educational experiences.

We both enjoy working at our full time jobs. Julie's job has more flexibility in hours and ability to work from home as needed. There are several wonderful daycares located close to our home and work. Both of us work less than 5 miles away which makes for a very short drive to work and convenient for us to get this child to and from daycare as needed. We would be able to take time off from work to attend any daytime school functions the child would be involved in such as school plays or "Bring a parent to school day" etc.

We will be forever grateful to you for allowing us to parent your child. Your child will know he/she was adopted and we will share with this child what a difficult and loving decision you made when you decided adoption was the best opportunity for him/her to experience life to its fullest. You will be discussed with appreciation for your sacrifice. If you would like to exchange letters and pictures as this child grows and develops, we would be happy to do so. Any questions this child has growing up about his/her birthparents will be answered honestly and with compassion.

Although we are similar in many ways, our strengths are what make us a strong couple. Tom is laid back and has a calming effect on Julie. She can count on him to help put things into perspective when she has a problem. Julie is organized and likes to plan events and activities. She keeps the household running smoothly.

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**Tom and Julie**

