

Bryan & Amanda



Dear Birthparent(s)



While we do not know specifically of your challenges, we do know that you are considering making a difficult decision that is filled with emotions and wanting to do the right thing. Choosing adoption is truly a statement of selflessness, love and caring that we feel is beautiful and admirable. When thinking about being parents, we have a deep desire to explore the great things life has to offer with a little one. We are glad to get to share a little about ourselves with you in the next few pages. Hopefully, it will give you a glimpse into who we are and what we would offer your child.



The Beginning of Us

Our friendship began at the end of 2000 on a very unique blind date. We met at a local mall and drove to a little Italian restaurant Bryan knew about. Then we attended a concert performed by Trans Siberian Orchestra. Our trust and friendship grew as we dated, discovering we had the same

values, beliefs and goals in life. Finally, on a warm spring day underneath the Cherry Blossoms along the Tidal Basin in Washington DC, Bryan proposed to Amanda.

Starting a Family

We had always included discussions of having children when speaking of getting married. For whatever reason, we always thought that the possibility of adoption could be a part of our lives regardless of our own ability to have children. We believe that God will provide what is best for us and help us make the best decisions when the time is right. When Amanda started to face some medical challenges, the successful treatment sent her into early menopause. Our decision to begin the application process was an easy one to make. We are excited at the prospect of someone like you helping us fulfill our dreams.



Open-Door

We are thrilled at the prospect of being chosen as adoptive parents and will absolutely share the story of selflessness and strength it took for you to choose us. Your child will know how special you are, and how much love it took for you to make such a decision. We welcome the opportunity to meet you if you

so choose. We want to hear about your desires for your child and we want to assure you that we will provide a healthy, strong and safe family life. Hopefully by getting to know us a little, you will be comfortable knowing that we will love your child and provide the best opportunities we can.



A Moment with Amanda



While growing up in a slightly more rural part of Ohio, a playmate was only as far as my brother or sister

I played softball, volleyball, rode horses and really enjoy music. I played French horn and Sousaphone/tuba in both the school's orchestra and marching band. Every kind of music from Louie Armstrong to Kiss to Amy Grant is heard in my car. Some of my favorite authors are Agatha Christie, J.D. Robb and Vince Flynn, as I always have a novel close at hand.

Early on, I found I had a knack when it came to computers and software. This talent grew to my career today working for the technology arm of a Fortune 500 company supporting its many computer needs. Bryan mentioned I have a kind and loving heart, and I find great joy in the beauty I see in people every day.

Briefly Bryan



I grew up in a suburb of Cleveland with a close knit family. Always wanting to be like my Dad, I was often (and still am) willing to tell a

joke or two. I am a lifelong Steelers fan and remember decorating the living room with Steelers gear every time the Browns and Steelers played. Amanda thinks I'm a strong, kind and considerate person who really enjoys life.

At some point, I found I had a strong interest in current events and what is going on in the world around me. I took naturally to preparing food in the kitchen, with my parents, which eventually led me to culinary school and to now managing a bakery manufacturing facility. I have a strong work-ethic, am proud of my personal integrity, and although I might tell you that I want to be a dad just like Red Foreman from That 70's Show, I would only be joking.

The Things We Do

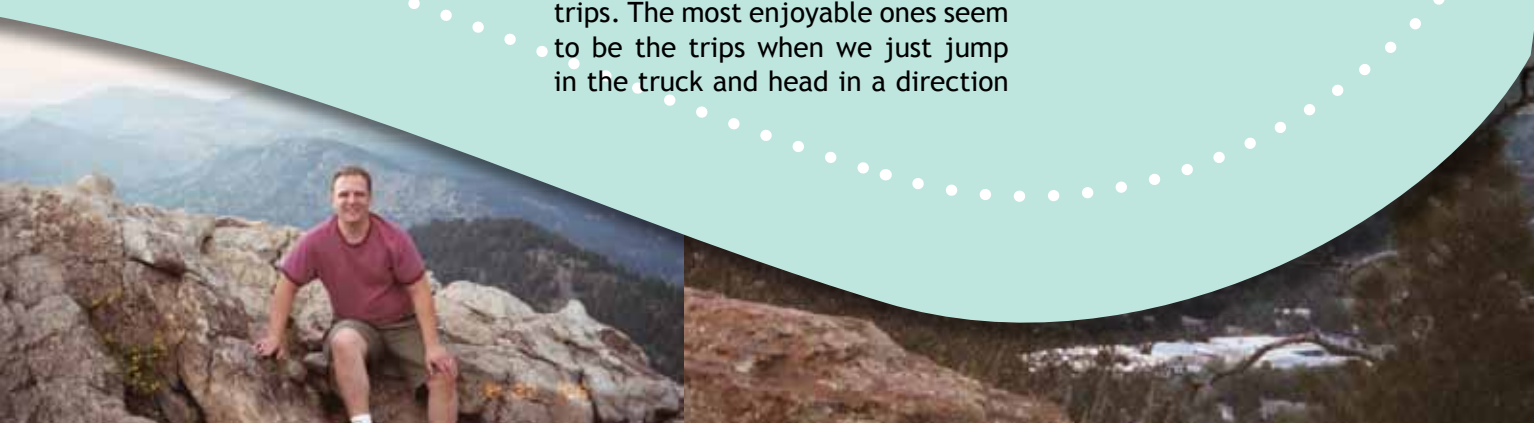
We have such a great time when we travel and explore what the world has to offer, and we like to take many different kinds of trips. The most enjoyable ones seem to be the trips when we just jump in the truck and head in a direction

to see what we find which often includes some historical stop along the way. Bryan, of course, is always on the look-out for the local bakery to make a quick stop.

We both like to work in and around our home especially in our yard. Reading stories and novels, hiking at the local parks, taking Gunther and Gretyl to the dog park and catching a good movie when we can are a few more of our favorite past times.

Foundation in Values and Faith

We were both brought up to believe in God, attend church and live by the golden rule. Both of our families instilled strong beliefs that we know right from wrong, be honest, trustworthy, polite and to have good manners. We believe every mistake is an opportunity to learn, every problem is a challenge to overcome and there is a positive angle to view virtually anything in life. We hope to teach a child these important values to carry with them always. A good education built on with experience will grow a person to have unimaginable abilities. A book can explain how to make bread, but you do not really know how to do it until you do so, successfully.





G & G Our Lab Mutts

We have two exceptional yet goofy dogs. Gunther, the big boy, is nearly 100 pounds of happy-go-lucky gentleness. He loves to play and when napping he does not mind our nieces and nephews climbing all over him. Gretyl, the little diva, is 40 pounds and focuses on being loved. She loves to run and prefers to hang out with people when we go to the dog park.

Our Home

We knew we wanted enough room for children, a bit of a yard and a good school district. We live in a two-story, four bedroom house that sits on just over 3/4 of an acre in a rather quiet neigh-

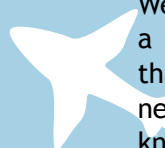
borhood. We are also in a highly rated school district, are not too far from our families, and we have great caring neighbors. The kids in the neighborhood range from newborn to teenage and beyond. One of our favorite things about our street is that it is actually two self-contained blocks. Our road cannot be used to cut through so traffic is very light, and our neighbors pay attention to each other's houses.

Our Families

For both of us family was a prominent part of our growing years. We spent many exciting weekends and summers with those close to us. We both enjoyed

camping, family picnics, holidays and birthday parties. Both sets of our parents are still married and provide a great sense of support to us. We believe that the examples that were set for us by them truly shaped how important family is to us.

We feel lucky to have a family of a pretty good size, and are most thankful for our eight nieces and nephews. When we were getting to know each-other's families, they were great at helping us break the ice. They are a constant source of entertainment at any gathering. With a little prayer, maybe the strength of family and caring for others will be passed on to another generation.



Thank You

Once again, thank you for taking the time to get to know us a little bit. It is difficult to convey so much about us in such a short amount of space, but hopefully you will see something unique in us. Amanda wants to provide a home so full of love that any child knows, no matter where life takes them; they would always have a safe place to return. Bryan can almost envision the young adult that he helped raise going into the world, head held high, confident and comfortable in himself or herself.

It would truly be our honor to get to know you and explore our adoption opportunities together. Please know that should you select us for your child, he or she will be in a home dedicated to loving, teaching, adventure, good humor and bad jokes. We will do our best to provide a path full of the endless possibilities that their future holds.

Genuinely,
Amanda & Bryan

