

our
story



Brett *and* Melissa

adoption in our life



Melissa has always had a passion as a nurse to take care of medically fragile children where her presence to support the child was medically necessary. She has noted during her career that she felt more like a coparent to the child and thoroughly enjoyed that feeling. Some of her clients trusted her so much that she was asked to attend multiple family vacations with them.

Brett was exposed to the idea of adoption at a very early age as his older brother was adopted as an infant. Brett's parents were not successful in becoming pregnant and chose to adopt to start their family. To this very day, Brett and his parents believe that he would not have been born had it not been for his brother's calming influence on his mother.

OUR HOME & NEIGHBORHOOD

Modest living is one of our primary desires and we always do our absolute best to ensure we leave the places we have been in a better condition than we found them. We live in a small, two-story home pleasantly located on a fresh water lake in Northern Indiana. The abundance of good businesses provides multiple educational options such as public and private which are also some of the better school districts in the state. We currently have two dogs (Yuka and Sieger) and a cat (LC)...all of which are adorable and super lovable. Pets are important to us as it's a blessing to take care of something that provides unconditional love.

OUR HOBBIES AND PASSIONS

A significant passion for both of us and one of the reasons why we connect as a couple at a foundational level is our desire to stay healthy and in shape. Both of us realized early in our lives that taking care of ourselves is important so we can take care of others. We both really enjoy going on hikes, kayaking and bike rides. We especially enjoy being able to go on hikes with the dogs as the dogs help us see things and wildlife that we otherwise might walk past without noticing. Standard workout routines are very important to us as it helps us stay strong but also mentally fit.

We also really enjoy water related activities such as water skiing and calming boat rides. A recent activity we both competed in was show water skiing. Show water skiing includes various different types of ski acts that follow a theme and are known as an aquatic Broadway musical. Water skiing is a sport filled with camaraderie and friends you make for life!



our life
together



more about **Melissa**

Occupation: Registered Nurse

Education: Associates degree

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Methodist

Sport: Pickleball, water skiing, softball

Food: Cherries, taco salad, chicken

Hobby: Baking, cooking, hiking, reading, working out

Family Tradition: Dinner on a camp fire

Musical Group: Country and Christian music

Movie: *Coyote Ugly*

Dream Vacation: Australia and New Zealand

Holiday: Christmas

TV Show: *Chicago Med* and *Chicago Fire*

School Subject: Science

Book: *Harry Potter* series and *Slow Burn*



more about **Brett**

Occupation: Environmental Health & Safety Manager

Education: Bachelors degree

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Methodist

Sport: Pickleball, water skiing, softball

Food: Chicken with balsamic vinaigrette, any kind of vegetables

Hobby: Household projects & improvements, vehicle maintenance, hiking, working out

Family Tradition: Dinner on a camp fire

Musical Group: Country and Christian music

Movie: *Gone in 60 Seconds* & *Chasing Mavericks*

Dream Vacation: Australia and New Zealand

Holiday: Christmas

TV Show: *This Old House* and *Blue Bloods*

School Subject: Mathematics

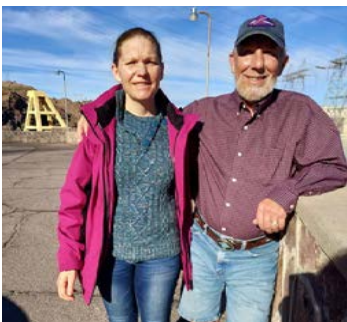
Book: *Family Handyman Magazine*





our family & friends

Family and friends are everything to us and joyfully rewarding. We are so incredibly blessed that all of our parents are still with us and heavily involved in our lives today. In addition, our parents are very supportive of our decision to adopt and are incredibly excited for us to become parents. Both of us have brothers as siblings that have two amazingly creative children themselves. Many of our very close friends have come from previous jobs and companies we have worked for, but a large majority have also come from volunteering and supporting non-profit organizations. Both of our families have Christmas traditions that include meals, gift giving, playful humor and always finding time to watch all of the Grinch movies.





our letter *to you*

As you begin to read our profile we realize and respect that you are considering one of the biggest decisions life can bring for you and your baby. Just considering adoption shows a genuine compassion and desire for your baby's wellbeing and is incredibly noble.

Our desire to adopt came from a unique but not uncommon set of life events. We both have always had a desire to raise a family from a young age and unfortunately never had the opportunity based upon previous failed intimate relationships and most recently infertility. However, as Christians, we always held fast to our spiritual beliefs and realized there are other amazing paths to parenthood. Adoption wasn't a hard decision for us, but rather a purposeful step to becoming a larger family that values togetherness.

We are incredibly hopeful about what the future may bring in our efforts to grow our family, and have a strong passion to be the best version of ourselves so we can focus on being there for each other. There will be good times and there will be struggles, but how we respond and the lessons learned from those experiences will help us become a unified family unit that can overcome anything. Your consideration of us as adoptive parents is so appreciated and we would cherish the opportunity and life long dream to be parents to your child.

WITH LOVE,

MELISSA & BRETT



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