

MATT & GRANT





CUDDLED UP AT HOME

HELLO!

WE ARE

Matt & Grant

FROM CHICAGO!



We dream of bringing a baby into our family through adoption and we feel more than ready!

We'd like to share more about our life together in these pages. As a gay couple, we feel an open adoption

is important. **We will never be able to fill your place, and our child will always have a strong connection with you.** We are also blessed to have both of our families nearby.



WE CAN'T WAIT TO BECOME PARENTS!



LAUGHING IN THE SUNSET

Should you choose to consider us as parents for your baby,

WE PROMISE

YOUR CHILD WILL BE RAISED IN A **LOVING, SUPPORTIVE, AND DIVERSE ENVIRONMENT** SURROUNDED BY friends, family, and fun.

OUR LOVE STORY



We met a little over seven years ago. We were introduced through a mutual friend that went to college with Matt and later did medical training with Grant. Our first meeting was at a dive bar in Old Town (Chicago) - Grant remembers that Matt was wearing an "awful" knitted hat; Matt remembers that Grant "talked a lot". Grant went out of town the next day and we talked on the phone and texted all day and night until he returned the next week.

Over the years we not only fell in love, but truly became best friends.

We had so much in common from our first meeting and that closeness has only strengthened. We are both outgoing adventurers who loved to travel. We love doing and going and seeing - boredom is our biggest shared fear! **We enjoy spending time with loved ones, cooking, music, musicals, playing sports, and exploring the beautiful city we call home.**



MAKING SWISS CHOCOLATE



OUR BEAUTIFUL WEDDING DAY



HIKING IN ARIZONA

We married almost 4 years ago and were lucky to have over 300 friends & family in Chicago to help us celebrate the start of our life together.

VISITING FRIENDS IN CALIFORNIA



Since then, our love has only grown stronger and the most important thing in our lives is the adventure we are on together. Through successes and setbacks, we are always there for each other, always making the most of each day, and most importantly, always choosing joy. We can't wait for this happy marriage to feel complete by adding a child and growing our family to three.

5 things we WILL TEACH OUR FUTURE CHILD

- Individuality is beautiful
- The Golden Rule
- Life is short; make the most of each day you are given
- Everyone has their own burdens and problems - visible or not
- Choose joy and make your own joy



ALL ABOUT
MATT
 BY
 MATT



I am so excited to be a parent!

I'm a real estate agent in Chicago and in my day job I love helping clients find the perfect place to call home. **My job gives me a lot of flexibility in work/life balance, and this will allow me to be the primary caregiver at home to our adopted child.** I have

had plenty of practice in the past few years as many of our friends have welcomed babies into their families. It has been such a joy to witness and help them learn and grow each day - particularly during the early months of the pandemic when we spent lots of time with our nephew, Jonah.

I AM THE **OLDEST OF**
THREE BOYS AND
 grew up in a supportive and busy home in suburban Chicago.

As a kid, I excelled in academics and played sports including ice hockey, baseball, and golf. I studied finance and political science at the University of Notre Dame and, following college, lived in Washington DC for three years. **I love to cook and am excited to learn new recipes for our family!** In the past few years I have been reacquainted with horseback riding, a brief hobby of mine when I was younger. **As an adult, it's so relaxing to leave the city and spend a few hours at the barn - cleaning, caring for, and exercising these amazing animals.**



PLAYING PIANO WITH OUR NEPHEW

HORSEBACK RIDING IS A HOBBY OF MINE



NEWBORN CUDDLES



Matt's Fun Facts

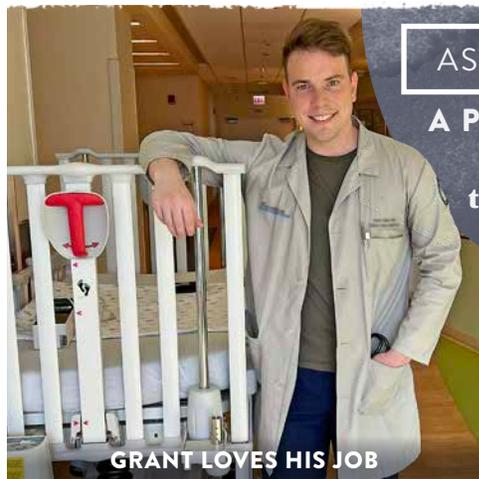
- **CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT:** Chocolate
- **CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY:** Playing in the snow
- **FAVORITE HOBBY:** Music / playing piano & singing
- **WHAT I LIKE TO COLLECT:** Stickers
- **FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD:** Chicago Children's Museum
- **VACATION SPOT:** Mexico
- **FAVORITE ATHLETE:** Gus Kenworthy (Skier)
- **FAVORITE HOLIDAY:** Halloween
- **DREAM JOB:** Astronaut



I CANNOT wait to be a dad.

I grew up with several loving people in my life - my mom and maternal grandmother - who taught me what unconditional love is. I think that love without condition is the most important thing you can give a child. My mother was sick when I was young, and I was a little nerd who loved math and science. Seeing the love and support my mother received from her health care teams back then mixed with my passion to learn, led me at an early age to know I wanted to pursue a career in medicine and become a doctor. I also knew at a young age that I wanted to work with children. Childhood is such an important time, and kids deserve the best chance they can get. **I studied hard and went to medical school and then became a pediatric intensive care doctor in Chicago. I take care of very sick babies, children, and teenagers.** While that seems heavy, there are so many days that all I see is children getting better and the hope that brings. Also with the good, comes the bad. But being there for families through the hardest time in their lives gives me a unique perspective for someone in their 30s. **I know to live every day fully, to choose joy, and to not sweat the small stuff.**

ALL ABOUT GRANT BY GRANT



GRANT LOVES HIS JOB

AS YOU CAN TELL, MY LIFE AS A PHYSICIAN IS A BIG PART OF who I am. But outside of that, I've been told I am the life of the party.

We have a BEAUTIFUL group of friends (who are all having children of their own) in Chicago and great family as well. We are always planning play dates with our friends children, traveling when Matt and I are off, and in general making every day an adventure. I can't wait to share that with a child.

Some of my other hobbies include running/biking, softball in the summers, skiing, reading (everything from black hole theory to Twilight), and decorating our new house!



ON VACATION

Grant's Fun Facts

- FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD: Museum of Science & Industry
- FAVORITE ATHLETE: Tom Daley
- CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY: Cards with Grandma
- WHAT I LIKE TO COLLECT: Friends
- VACATION SPOT: Switzerland
- FAVORITE HOLIDAY: Thanksgiving
- DREAM JOB: Doctor
- CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT: Social interaction
- FAVORITE HOBBY: Reading and running



WE LOVE GAME NIGHT



PUMPKIN PATCH FUN!



WELCOME TO OUR HOME

OUR HOME and community

We live in the City of Chicago and are passionate about raising our family here.

CHICAGO IS HOME TO SOME OF THE BEST FOOD, MUSIC, ART, AND CULTURE IN THE WORLD - and for the past ten years it's been our home, too. In December we moved into our "forever home" in preparation of growing our family.

Having lived elsewhere, we know that our family will be most "at home" in a big city full of like-minded people and diverse families. We look forward to walking our kid(s) to school and watching them play sports in any of the nearby parks.

We enjoy the hot, sunny Chicago summers and make the most of the snowy winters; we also love the central location in the Midwest that enables us to easily visit friends all over the country.



COOKING DINNER TOGETHER

COMING OUT

While we each have our own story about coming out as gay,



DATE NIGHT

we are similar in that both of us were in our mid-twenties before we felt comfortable opening up to family and friends about our identities. Coming out was difficult for both of us; having a gay son was not a reality that either of our families anticipated. Though challenging, we feel that coming out was a formative experience that helped us become stronger and more compassionate people. As a gay couple, we hope to identify to some extent with our adopted child in knowing what it's like "to be different".



WITH MATT'S FAMILY AT OUR WEDDING

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Both of us come from families with three boys.

Family is very important to us, and we are grateful to have supportive families that have helped us immensely to navigate the successes and challenges of life.

Matt's family consists of Tom & Leslie (Matt's parents), Dan & Kevin (Matt's brothers). They live in the Chicago suburbs and we see them very often! His parents love to make the short visit for dinners, shopping, & Chicago Blackhawks hockey games. His brothers are sports fans with no shortage of interests - golf, hockey, baseball, football, soccer...the list goes on. Matt's parents are especially looking forward to our adoption as it will be their first grandchild.

Grant's family includes Bruce & Doreen (Grant's dad & stepmom), Karla (Grant's mom), Ryan & Alex (Grant's brothers). They are all a few hours away in Southern Illinois & Northern Kentucky. We love visiting our niece, Sloane, who just turned 2 years old and is a sassy, happy, perfect little girl.

In the winter, we visit our parents & family in Florida (Matt's) and Arizona (Grant's) to escape the snow in Chicago!



DINNER WITH MATT'S FAMILY



OUTDOOR FUN WITH GRANT'S PARENTS



GRANT & HIS MOM



LUNCH WITH MATT'S FAMILY



SNUGGLE SELFIE

While we are close with our biological families,

WE ARE ALSO VERY CLOSE WITH WHAT WE CALL OUR "CHOSEN FAMILY" -



GRANT'S AMAZING COLLEAGUES

our friends that have been with us from various life stages and with whom we frequently spend time and rely on to help one another. This includes lifelong friends from college and our LGBTQ+ friends, many of whom we have met in the past decade

since coming out. These relationships have been extremely important to us in shaping our character. We believe that family is not defined by blood; family are the people that "show up". This is how we view our close friends kids, as nieces and nephews.



HALLOWEEN AS CHIP & JOANNA



IT'S
A
WRAP



**Thank you for taking the time to
read our profile!**

We hope that you got a sense as to what our life is like and
the dreams that we have for our future family.

LOVE, MATT & GRANT