
Ben + Stephanie



A GLIMPSE INTO OUR LIFE





our note
to you





"FOR YOU CREATED MY INMOST BEING; YOU KNIT ME
TOGETHER IN MY MOTHER'S WOMB. I PRAISE YOU
BECAUSE I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE."

PSALMS 139:13-14



hello!

We are so happy to meet you!

We can't thank you enough for looking at our profile! We see you, we hear you, and we appreciate you. We praise God for you! We don't know your situation, but we know and trust our God— He made you and your baby, and He has you in His hands. Please know we already love you and your child. We are grateful for you. We recognize your strength in this moment and the love you have for your child in this decision. We are proud of you!

We have prayed about this decision to adopt for years. We have been unable to have children of our own. If chosen, we will love your child deeply. We are looking forward to the sleepless nights, watching them take their first steps and ride their first bike, their first day of school, first tee ball game and first spelling bee. We are looking forward to the Tooth Fairy, Santa Claus, and the Easter Bunny visiting our house. We are looking forward to their birthday parties and seeing them grow. Then, one day, we will teach them how to drive and watch them graduate high school. We will be there for your child every step they take in life.

We will share your child's story with them from day one. We want them to know just how much you love them and that love will always be a beautiful part of their life. Adoption is part of your child's story, and we want them to know that from an early age.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us! We hope our profile helps you see a bit of who we are, what we love, and gives just a glimpse into the life your child would have in our home and family.

Ben + Stephanie



our story

WE MET OVER ELEVEN YEARS AGO ONLINE. WE EXCHANGED NUMEROUS TEXT MESSAGES AND PHONE CALLS BEFORE MEETING AT STARBUCKS. EVER SINCE THAT FIRST MEETING, WE HAVE A WEEKLY STARBUCKS DATE TOGETHER!

Ben proposed at his twin sister's wedding during the bouquet toss. Everyone at the reception knew that he was going to propose except me and one other girl they had not told. Well, the only other girl that didn't know was the one who caught the bouquet! Ben's cousin, Katie, saved the day by grabbing the bouquet from her and handed it to me. I did not yet realize what was happening and was shocked that Katie would do such a "mean" thing. But then, Ben came over and got down on one knee and proposed!

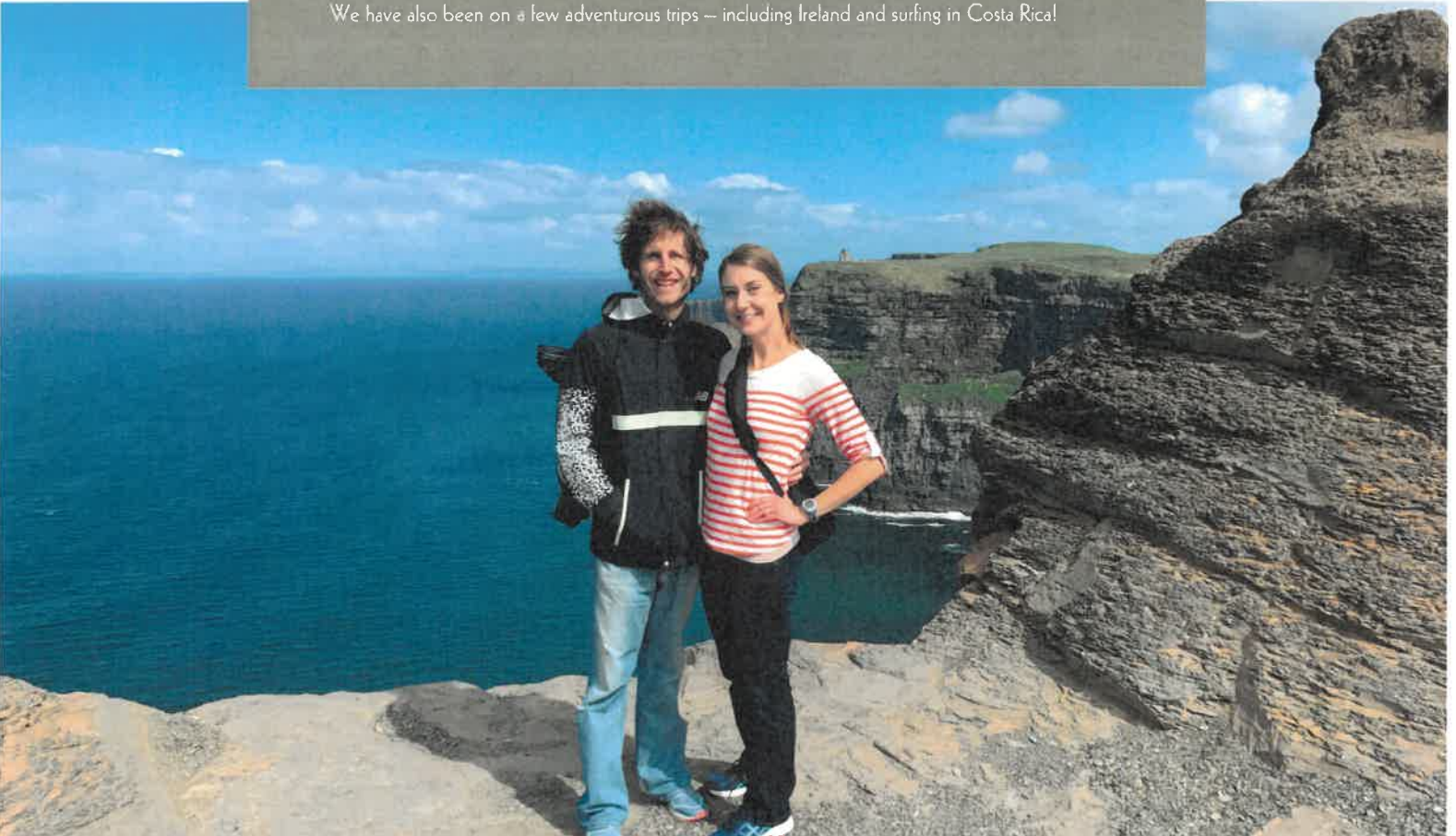
We got married on a chilly day in March. Our wedding was small and intimate with our closest family and friends. The wedding turned "messy" during the cake cutting as we got cake all over each other— even in my hair! It was a fun and memorable moment! We took our honeymoon a few months after the wedding and we went to Tucson, Arizona. We went hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and golfing!



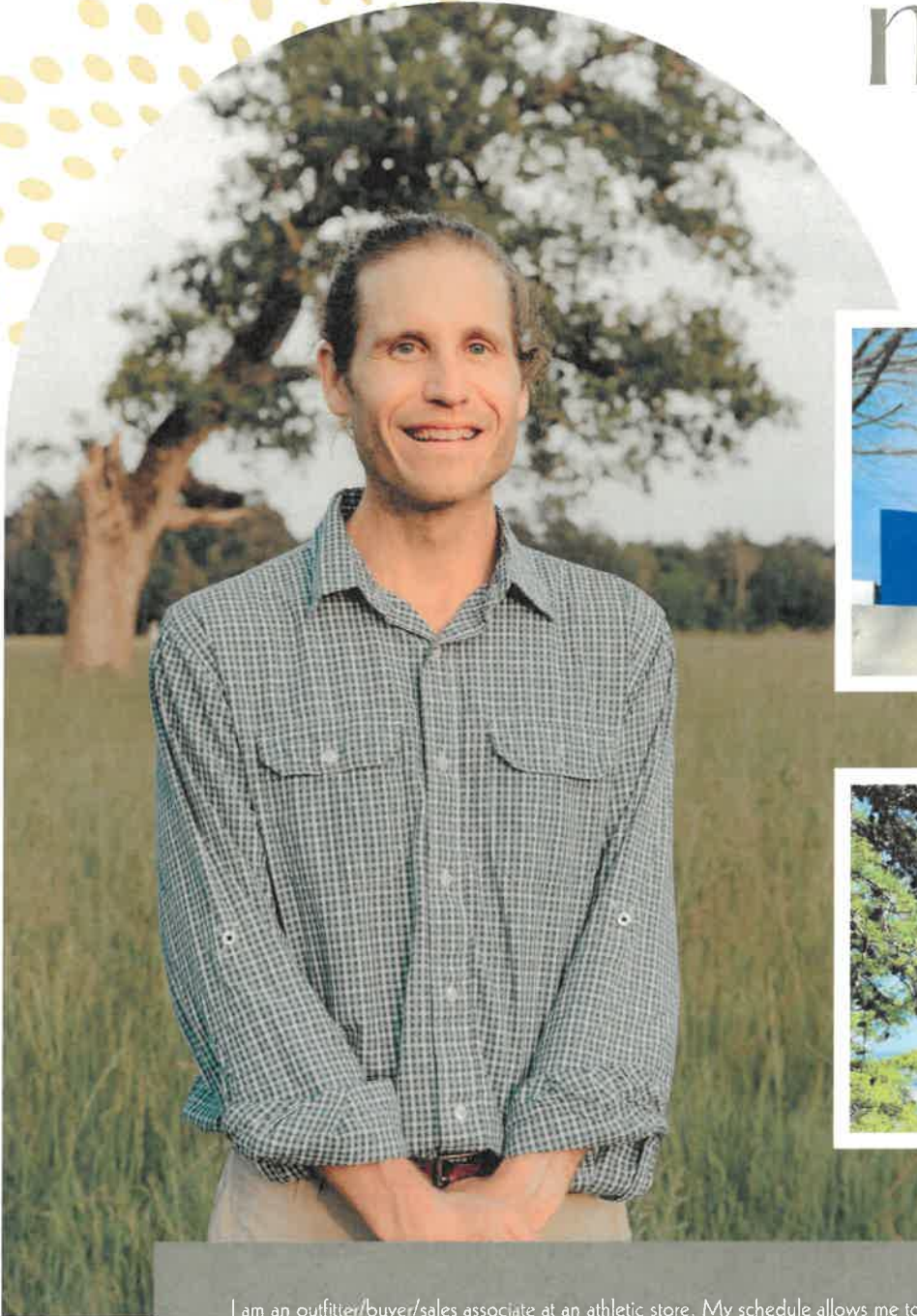


Ten years and counting!

In our ten years of marriage, we continue to have weekly coffee dates as well as dates hiking, running, or biking. We enjoy staying active and being outside. These dates are our time to communicate if we want or just enjoy each other's presence. We go to church each week, which is very important to us. We have also been on a few adventurous trips — including Ireland and surfing in Costa Rica!



meet ben



I am an outfitter/buyer/sales associate at an athletic store. My schedule allows me to be off some during the week and at least one weekend day as well. I will also have available time off for the adoption! I have a very laid-back type of personality that just goes with the flow. I enjoy making others around me laugh, I think it's a super important part of my personality. I'm looking forward to putting a smile on our baby's face and hearing their laughter! I love being outdoors, usually trail running or hiking, and can't wait to include our baby in that. I also like to bike and fish. I feel like that will be a lot of teachable moments for our baby because I'm not very good at fishing! I love having breakfast dates with my wife and helping her out with chores when she lets me. We love going to the grocery store together. Another thing I love to do is take the dogs out for donuts at least once a week and I'm looking forward to including our baby in that adventure! At the end of the day, I'm genuinely a hard worker who keeps going no matter what obstacle is in the way and can't wait to teach our baby that trait. My greatest accomplishment is marrying Stephanie. I said I couldn't fish, but she was a good catch!

some fun facts

about me

01

I AM GROWING OUT MY HAIR AND PLAN TO DONATE MY HAIR ONE DAY! WHO DO YOU THINK HAS BETTER HAIR? ME OR STEPH? DON'T TELL STEPH, BUT I THINK MY HAIR IS BETTER!

02

I HAVE PLAYED GOLF MOST OF MY LIFE INCLUDING PLAYING THROUGH COLLEGE.

03

MY TWO FAVORITE FOODS ARE DONUTS AND KETCHUP, BUT NOT TOGETHER!



*What stephanie
has to say...*

Ben is the most gentle and caring person you will meet. He is goofy and easy-going which helps to balance out my Type A personality. Ben wakes up each morning and makes me coffee. He puts his family's needs before his own. Ben is patient and forgiving. He loves unconditionally. He loves me in my sweatpants and messy bun. One of Ben's favorite foods is donuts— he is already calling himself "Donut Dad." Ben is so excited to be a father! He is constantly researching the best, safest car seat, stroller, and pack n plays! He is excited to play sports with our child and take them for donuts!

meet stephanie



I am a Registered Dietitian, though I don't consider myself the food police. Instead, I enjoy everything about food—gardening, cooking, and eating. I enjoy helping others learn how to fuel their body by getting the best nutrition. I do plan to continue working as a mom, but my work allows me to be off in the evenings and on weekends and holidays! I am the “Type A” personality between the two of us. I arrive early everywhere I am going, and I love planning and organization. I love to cook! I even have some kid-friendly recipes that I am excited to make for our baby! You will find me at the farmers market every weekend April through October. I love knowing where my food is grown, and I love building relationships with local farmers. I enjoy staying active and being outside. I have completed numerous triathlons, marathons, and half marathons. I am very excited about being a mother! I am looking forward to teaching them how to cook and how to garden. I am looking forward to holidays and building traditions. I am excited for family vacations and trips to the lake house. I am looking forward to bike rides, family game nights, pizza and movie nights, field trips, making birthday cakes and decorating the house for birthdays, and making so many memories.

some fun facts *about me*

01

YOU MAY NOTICE MY HAIR IS DIFFERENT LENGTHS IN PICTURES! I HAVE DONATED MY HAIR THREE TIMES SO FAR AND PLAN TO DONATE IT AS MANY TIMES AS I AM ABLE TO IN THE FUTURE!

02

I AM AN "IRONMAN" WHICH MEANS I HAVE COMPLETED A TRIATHLON CONSISTING OF A 2.4 MILE SWIM, 116 MILE BIKE RIDE, AND A 26.2 MILE RUN!

03

I LOVE EVERYTHING CHRISTMAS! I PUT UP TWO FULL SIZE CHRISTMAS TREES EACH YEAR AND OUR HOUSE LOOKS LIKE A CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP. I LOVE TO BAKE HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS COOKIES!



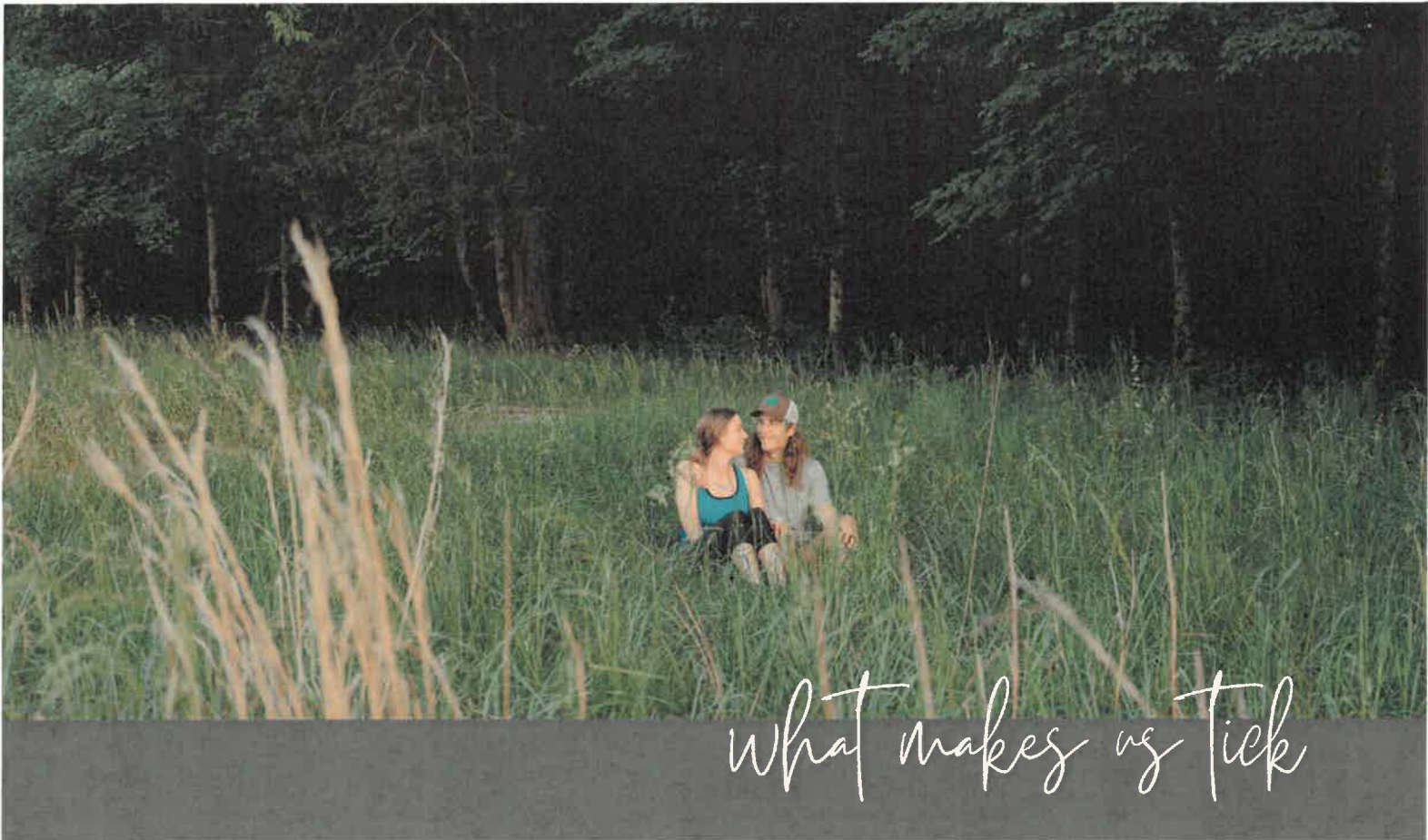
*what ben
has to say...*

Stephanie is a loving wife who always puts her family first. She makes sure I always have my cold brew coffee in the mornings and that the fur babies have their extra treats! She loves taking care of us- the dogs and me and soon to be a baby! She always has a plan and that second sense of what to do in every situation. I remember when my ankle and foot were injured, she didn't mind jumping in and cutting the yard! Now every once in a while she'll surprise me and do it while I'm at work. She is a go-getter and doesn't mind working hard. Stephanie will be a great mom! She loves to cook and try new recipes, so that's an adventure in and of itself. She also loves to bike and run, work out, go to markets, and read. One of her favorite places to be is relaxing in the sunshine on the beach!



family values





1

KEEP CHRIST IN THE CENTER OF OUR FAMILY.

We believe God has a plan for our life, including plans for your child's life. We believe God is with us and we trust and follow Him. Our faith guides us in decisions, and in how we treat others. We plan to raise our child according to our Christian faith, including attending church each week. Our church is active in the community and hosts many kid-friendly events each year.

2

SPEND QUALITY TIME TOGETHER AS A FAMILY ON A WEEKLY BASIS.

Quality time means no cell phones or doing chores. We want to spend quality time having meaningful conversations and having fun. We will do this by eating dinner together, having family movie or game nights, and going for hikes or bike rides.

3

HAVE A WEEKLY COFFEE AND DONUT RUN.

Because, why not?!

4

RESPECT EACH OTHER AND OTHERS AROUND US.

We will be patient, loving, kind, and encouraging as a family but also to those we encounter in our neighborhood, at the park, or at the grocery store.

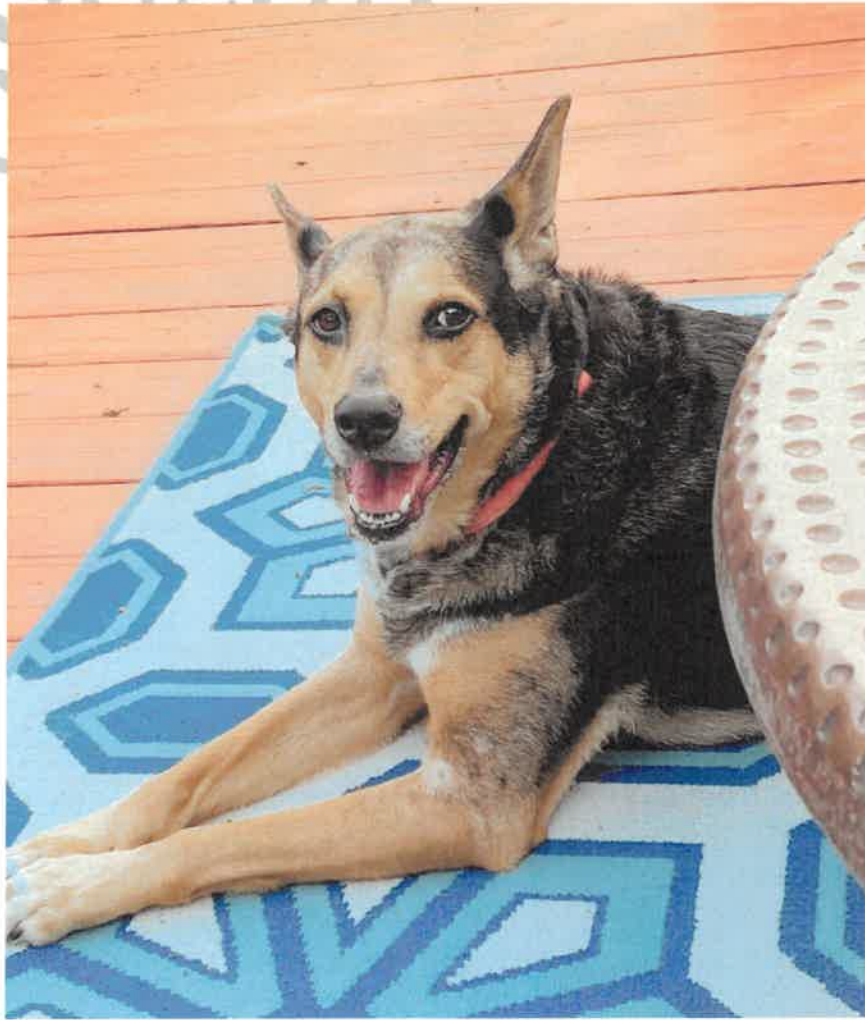


home *sweet* home

We live a three bedroom, two bathroom house in a very family friendly neighborhood. We have a flat lot with plenty of space for our child to run and play. One of the things we love most about our neighborhood are the families and children that live here. There are kids playing sports together in the street and in their yards and riding bikes daily. It is a very safe neighborhood that looks after each other. We love that our neighborhood and the surrounding area are very diverse.

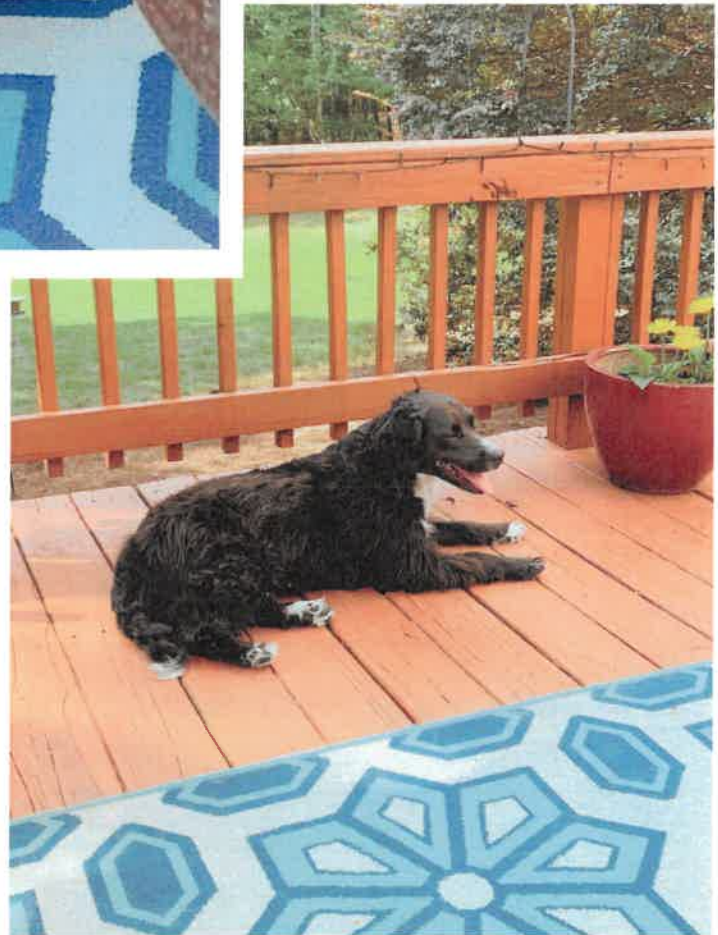
Our house is located conveniently close to numerous grocery stores, shopping places, parks, schools, and medical facilities. The school district that we live in is one of the best in our area. We have a zoo, aquarium, museums, and train stations with local rides nearby. We live in the south so cooling off in the lake, river, or swimming pool are common in the summer!

WE LOVE OUR HOUSE AND COMMUNITY, AND WE PLAN TO STAY IN OUR HOUSE FOR MANY YEARS. WE PLAN TO TRAVEL AND GO ON FAMILY VACATIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO VISITS THE LAKE SEVERAL TIMES EACH YEAR BUT ALSO PLAN TO GO ON BEACH TRIPS. IDEALLY, WE WOULD LOVE TO TAKE A BIGGER TRIP EVERY FEW YEARS- MAYBE A CRUISE OR TRAVEL TO NATIONAL PARKS.



meet
luna +
penny

We have two fur babies who we love very much. Both of our dogs were rescued. Luna is nine years old, and she is a shepherd mix. Her favorite activity is eating, especially her weekly trip to the donut shop with Ben. Luna's go-to order is a donut hole or a Puppachiuno! Luna also loves to take naps. She is a very chill dog. Penny is three years old, and she is a border collie mix. Penny is our active dog, full of happy energy. She is the happiest dog you will ever meet! Everyone and everything is her friend. She says hello to every person, squirrel, and bird on her walks. She loves to walk and run with us and go on car rides.





*our
family*

everyone is thrilled
to welcome
another member to
the family!

STEPHANIE'S FAMILY

My parents have been married for thirty-six years and they are very supportive of us. They live close by, and they are looking forward to babysitting regularly while we are at work. I also have a younger brother who is excited to be an uncle.

My family has a lake house that was built by my grandfather and father fifty years ago. We spend the summer weekends at the lake house swimming, boating, kayaking, relaxing, and grilling out. We have made so many memories there and we are excited for our child to share these memories.

BEN'S FAMILY

My parents have been married for over forty years and are so supportive and encouraging. I have a twin sister who is excited to be an aunt. My family lives about six hours away but technology helps us stay connected. We share pictures, send text messages, and Facetime each other often! My parents also love to send cards in the mail to stay connected and let us know they are thinking about us.





we are so thankful for our village!



SINCE I LOVE CHRISTMAS, IT'S A BIG DEAL IN OUR HOUSE EACH YEAR!

I decorate the house into a Christmas wonderland. I love to bake Christmas treat – gingerbread cookies, iced sugar cookies and homemade Little Debbie Christmas trees. Each year on Christmas we bake the same breakfast casserole and play games with family. One tradition that we would like to do each year with our child is have a family gift that the whole family will enjoy. This gift could be anything from a board game to a basketball goal to a family trip.



Halloween is a sweet time in our neighborhood! Our neighborhood is very family friendly and is the go-to neighborhood in the area for trick or treating. We put up a disco light on the front porch and some families put blow up games in their yard! On average, our neighborhood has over three hundred kids who trick or treat.

Our Fourth of July is spent at my family lake house. We spend our day swimming, fishing, boating, water skiing, grilling out, and watching fireworks!

I love to celebrate birthdays! I have been known to decorate the house for Ben's birthday and make him a cake. I am looking forward to decorating the house each year for our child to make them feel special on their day!

We always go to Starbucks on New Year's Day as New Year's Day 2012 was our first in-person date at a Starbucks. It's just another excuse to have coffee!

Some other traditions we enjoy each year are going to a college football game or watching college football every Saturday. We also try to go to the beach each year. Ben is wanting to start a new tradition of wearing his "dad" shirt every year at the beach. He has worn the same shirt the past two years at the beach when taking pictures and wants to keep this up!

our family traditions

enjoy every
moment



A woman with her hair in a bun, wearing a green and white checkered button-down shirt and khaki shorts, stands in a field of tall grass. She is smiling and holding hands with another person whose hand is visible on the right. The background shows a line of trees under a bright sky.

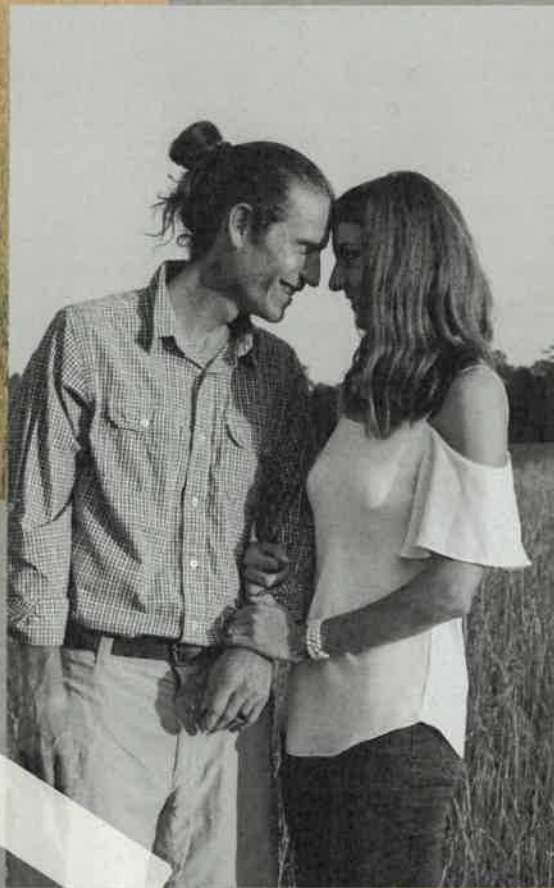
before
you go



Thank you again for reading about us! We hope we have the privilege and honor of knowing you one day. We hope to know your favorite hobbies, foods, and who you are. We would love to hear your hopes and dreams for your child. We want to be able to communicate with you over the years, if that is something you are comfortable with. We would love to send you pictures and updates of your child and we are open to in-person visits. We would love to talk about these details with you and hear your thoughts about the future.

Thank you again for considering us as potential parents to your sweet baby. We appreciate you, and we are so thankful our paths have crossed in this way.

Ben + Stephanie



you are loved

