



**MICHELLE & STEVE**

Dear Birthmother,

Thank you for taking time to review our profile. We realize what a difficult decision you are making and know you want nothing but the best for your child. We hope we can help you select the perfect parents for your child by sharing with you some details about us.

From the time we were married we both wanted to immediately start a family. When we realized that we could not have children of our own, we knew that adoption was a wonderful way to fulfill our dreams.

We have one adopted daughter and feel so blessed. Our daughter is the love of our lives. Nothing would make us happier than the opportunity to adopt a second child!



## MICHELLE'S REFLECTION ON STEVE

The day Steve and I met, I knew there was something special about him and now I cannot imagine my life without him. There isn't a day that goes by that he doesn't make me laugh, feel safe, and most importantly, feel loved. Steve is an extremely caring person and does whatever he can for his family and friends. Steve is a wonderful, loving father to our daughter; she grins from ear to ear and squeals for joy as soon as she sees him enter the room.

## MY 5 FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT STEVE

Color of his eyes

His freckles

His passion for all types of sports

He laughs at all my corny jokes

His willingness to try anything at least once



## STEVE'S REFLECTION ON MICHELLE

From the time I met Michelle, I knew she be a terrific wife for someone. I didn't know I would be lucky enough to be that person. Michelle has a way about her that lets you know she is a genuinely caring person. She doesn't take herself too seriously, yet still remains true to herself and her strong set of morals. And on top of all of this, she is a terrific mom! I can't believe how much she does for our daughter, from homemade pureed foods to nightly reading. She really knows how to share her love!

## MY 5 FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT MICHELLE

Her cooking

Her love of family

She likes to snuggle

Her taste for the simple things in life

She watches American Idol with me



**Michelle with Niece**

## HOW WE MET

We tell people where we met, it sparks curiosity and the next question is "What is that?" It was a weekly event during the spring called "Theology on Tap," where young adults in our area gathered in a local bar/restaurant to meet and talk, while a guest hosted a discussion on a different theology topic each week.

We both happened to attend one of these sessions Michelle was there with several friends who had regularly attended these, while Steve was there for the first time with the group, along with a co-worker who was there with her date. When Michelle walked in, looking for a seat, Steve luckily had one open at his table. We talked throughout the session, and then for a couple of hours after. We couldn't be bothered with anyone else that night. It was pretty obvious to everyone we had hit it off. And before you know it, we were married in August 2005.



### FUN FACTS ABOUT US

We love Barry White songs

Michelle is always cold, Steve is always hot

We like to go to the beach

We love taking Sarah for walks

Favorite dessert: anything chocolate



## OUR FAMILY



Sarah is our adopted daughter. We found out that we were selected by Sarah's birthmother, on Thanksgiving Day of 2010. We certainly had a lot to be thankful for that day!!!!

Upon hearing the news we flew out to meet Sarah that very next day; we didn't sleep at all that night, we were so excited.



## OUR FAMILY

As soon as we met our little girl and held her in our arms, we knew she was the one for us, and felt extremely blessed.

We LOVE being parents!

Reading, playing, and taking Sarah for walks have become our regular routines. She is so loved by both of our families and they come over to be with her as often as possible.

We adore our daughter and would love nothing more than for her to have a sibling she can play with, learn with, and grow up with. As we've learned ourselves, having siblings is a wonderful experience for both children.



### FUN FACTS ABOUT SARAH:

She loves books

She is a great eater

She has lots of fun listening to music

She loves to be with people

## MICHELLE'S FAMILY

Michelle has a younger brother and older sister, both of whom are married. Each had their first child born within a day of each other in November 2007. Her brother, his wife and two sons live a short half-hour drive from us, and we try to see them as often as possible. Her sister lives several hours away, but we are able to see her and her family several times a year, particularly around holidays.

Michelle's parents raised her and her siblings in upstate New York, and they still live there. We get to see them several times a year, including on their trips South to escape the cold and snowy New York winters. In addition to her siblings, Michelle also has several aunts and uncles and ten cousins. The family stays in close contact, and tries to have reunions every couple of years.



**Michelle with Nephew**



**Michelle with Niece**

## STEVE'S FAMILY

Like Michelle, Steve also has a younger brother and older sister. Steve's parents are a short fifteen minute drive from our house, and we see them frequently. His sister lives about an hour away, and Steve is lucky enough to have five nieces and nephews, ranging in age. We get to spend time with the whole family several times a year, particularly on holidays.

Steve's brother was the Best Man at our wedding. He lives about two hours away, but he visits Steve and his parents a few times a year for birthdays and holidays. Steve also has an uncle who is a priest. Steve was fortunate enough to have him present as he received each of his sacraments growing up.





## FUN FACTS ABOUT OUR FAMILIES

Steve has one uncle, while Michelle has seven aunts and uncles

Both of our parents still live in the house we each grew up in

Our parents are all enjoying retirement

We've both been godparents for our nieces and nephews

Family get-togethers are important for us



## OUR FRIENDS

We each have a number of close friends who have young children, so our children will have plenty of playmates! Mario and Elisa live ten minutes away, and have two daughters, ages seven and four. They're always so active and full of energy every time we visit!. Jen and Mike are friends of ours who also have one daughter, age three. Helen and Chris live close by and have two children three and one.



We have spent so much time around all of our friend's children, and enjoy getting together with them. Sarah, although not quite old enough to play with them, has a ball watching them and shouts with excitement!!!





## WHAT WE DO FOR FUN

Bicycle trips

Walks around the neighborhood or the park

Vacations to the beach or other outdoor attractions

Listening to Toddler Tunes and playing with Sarah

Eating dinner outside at a restaurant

Hanging out with friends





### OUR FAITH

We were both born and raised Catholic, and are still active members of the Church. Our faith even brought us together at Theology on Tap. We attend Mass every weekend and even holy days. Steve is a godfather to several of his nieces and nephews, while Michelle is godmother to her niece and nephew.

We believe that our faith has made us who we are today. We are blessed with so many things, including our jobs, our house, each other, and most of all our daughter. We are very thankful for all of this.

## OUR HOME AND COMMUNITY

Three years ago, we moved to a single family home. We wanted to have a larger house, to create into our own home, and have plenty of room for children. Our house has three bedrooms – lots of room for two children to have his or her own bedroom. We live on three quarters of an acre on a nice quiet, residential street. There's lots of room in the front for playing, and a wooded area in the back, with plenty of room to explore. We were lucky enough to purchase our house in a school district, which is nationally ranked and one of the top in the state. It was very important that we give our children every opportunity to learn and succeed in a strong educational environment.

We also wanted to be sure we didn't just live in a neighborhood, but a community. We've met all of our neighbors, and events such as Easter Egg Hunt and Barbecues are held annually. Our church is five minutes away. And there's never a shortage of things to do in the area, whether it's the Polish Festival at the church where Steve went to school, or the national park that is a short drive away.



## RAISING A CHILD

We strongly believe that we will both be warm, loving parents with our children, and already doing so for our daughter. We were both raised by parents who showed a great deal of love to us, and still do to this day. Spending time with family and friends is important to us, and we hope it will be to our children as well. We want them not to just have cousins, but to have them as friends as well.

We believe that traditions are important. Whether traditions are a big Thanksgiving meal, Fourth of July fireworks in the community park, or something as simple as summer road trips to the shore or the mountains, we want to share these experiences with our children. We look forward to Christmas mornings, opening presents together, and visiting with all of our families!

Encouragement and being sure to tell our child how proud we are of him or her is important. We both believe in positive reinforcement, and that it is a preferred approach to helping our child reach his or her dreams.



**Steve with Nephew**



And this encouragement isn't only about school. We were each active children, whether it was sports, learning an instrument, or after-school activities. We hope that our child/children will find what interests them, and take the time to learn and enjoy. While we believe in positive reinforcement, we will not be afraid to discipline our child or children when needed.

One of the nicest compliments that parents can receive is "Your children are so nice, polite and well-behaved." We believe it is important to strike a balance between discipline and trying to build our children's confidence in themselves. We will work to create an environment where our child/children will not be afraid to make mistakes, and learn from them.

**Michelle & Steve with  
Their Nephew**



## IN CLOSING

Thank you so much again for reviewing our profile. We hope that what we have shared here has allowed you to get a better idea of who we are, and the parents we are. We would welcome the opportunity to speak with you further if you like, and share more of ourselves. Creating our family is important for us, and in our opinion, raising children is the most important thing we think we can do.

We know this is a difficult decision for you, and we understand how much thought and consideration is involved in this. You want what is best for your child, and we can only hope and try to live up to the expectations of any birthmother. You should know that we will love your child unconditionally, and do our best to create the best environment possible for him or her to succeed wherever his or her road in life may go.

We wish you only the best in your own journey and in making your decision!

