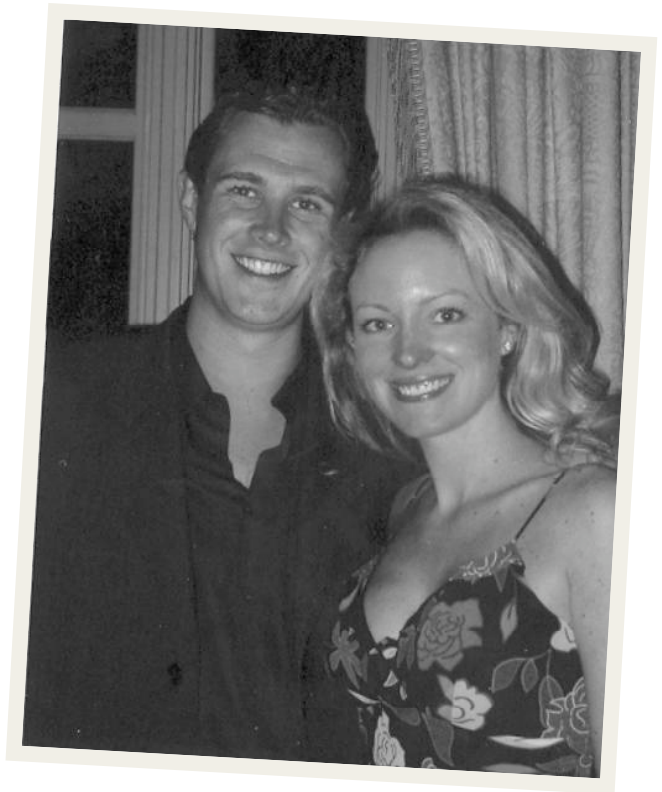


Our names are Dan and Meghan. We would like to thank you on behalf of all prospective adoptive parents for considering adoption for your child-to-be. The joy that your decision will bring to a lucky family is indescribable.

Our wonderful and loving relationship began at the relatively young age of seventeen, when we met at college, on the east coast, our freshman year. With the fairy tale ending predicted by everyone amongst our friends and family, we married a year after graduating and have spent a wonderful decade as husband and wife having just celebrated our ten year wedding anniversary.

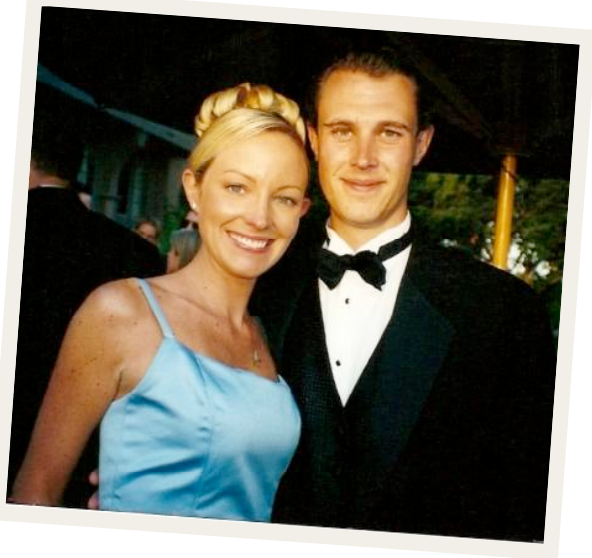


We consider ourselves to be the luckiest couple in the world and have always aspired to share our loving home with as many children as we could. In the first six years of our marriage we were blessed with the birth of two amazing children, Abigail (Abby) and Arabella (Bella). While we have two wonderful girls, we are more than open to either another daughter or son.

The pregnancy and the labor of our second daughter, Bella, resulted in complications which, while not life-threatening in any way, have prevented us from giving birth to more angels. Since then we have attempted every form of fertility treatment multiple times in order to increase our chances of bringing a third child into the world, but without success. We write this heart-felt letter to you in the hope we can share our joyous household with your child.



Meghan is the most loving wife and mother any man or child could hope for. We were fortunate enough that she was able to become a stay at home mom after the birth of Abby. It never ceases to amaze me that someone can wear the hats of mother and wife to such perfection. Aside from



being able to make everyone around her feel as if they are the most special person in the world, she somehow manages to make sure I do not leave the house with a tie that doesn't match my shirt while simultaneously helping Abby with her spelling words and Bella tie her shoes. While not doting over her husband and children, she is actively involved in our Parish, the Catholic school our children attend, a local town community organization and serves on the board of three charities.

Blessed is the word that comes to mind when I think about how lucky I am to be married

to Dan and that he is the father of our two girls. The love that he has for the children and the enjoyment that he gets each and every day out of spending time with his family is beyond words. He is the most patient, loving, loyal and honest husband, dad, son, colleague and friend anyone could ask for. He is passionate about his work and is President of two family-owned businesses. His primary role is serving as the head of a nationwide insurance company, but his second passion is helping to run a racing and breeding stable for thoroughbred race horses (needless to say, our two girls have become enamored with the majesty and grace of the thoroughbred horse and they cannot wait until they are old enough to start riding lessons).





Dan's entire family live in the Chicago area and the four of us see his parents and siblings on a weekly basis. Given the weather during Chicago's winter months, we are lucky that Meghan's family lives in the much warmer climate of Florida. Since we are so attached to both sides of the family, we all get to spend a number of weeks a year in both Florida and Dan's family's vacation home on the West Coast.





Probably the single greatest love our family shares (aside from each other), is travel. While vacation trips throughout North America are frequent, the two family businesses which Dan runs allow us to travel to exotic locations. The joy we experience in being able to take our children to England, Mexico, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean is boundless. We wish we could count the number of times we have fallen over laughing when one of the girls asks a question that could only come from a child's mouth (i.e., Daddy, who named Westminster Abbey after me? Mommy, why don't the people here speak the same as us? How come the beaches in Chicago aren't this soft?).

We were both blessed with parents who enjoy each other's company so immensely, not only have they been married for a combined eighty years, but they loved their families so much that they traveled as a family unit whenever and wherever possible. We have gratifyingly carried this tradition into our own home.

How do we describe Abby and Bella? If we had to choose one word it would be happy, but no letter can portray the uniqueness and subtleties of their personalities. We hope the attached pictures give some insight into their hearts and minds. First, they could not be more different and perfectly unique. Every morning we are amazed that two children with the same upbringing could be so one-of-a-kind. It has taught us that everyone will grow up as who they were meant to be and





that our primary role is to love and care for them, give them the confidence to succeed, and provide them with the means and love to reach their maximum potential. Both seem to have a passion for an endless list of activities such as soccer (Dan is the head coach of Abby's school soccer team), tennis, skiing, swimming, playing the piano, and art projects (probably their favorite). We are all physically active, with the combination of weekly training sessions and keeping up with the girls adds up to more than enough to keep us all fit and healthy. Both girls are aware of our decision to adopt and

could not be more excited, although, at their age, they only understand that they would have a new baby sister or brother which is a nightly wish.

Our family admires you immensely for undertaking such a courageous decision. If you choose us, we would be happy to send you letters and photographs letting you know your child is getting along if you wish. While we cannot see into your mind or emotions, we can only speak as partners who share a loving relationship and as two parents who will tend to your child as tenderly as is humanly possible. Thank you for taking the time to hear our story. We like to think of this as only a beginning and welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have (or to share more of our life stories since we gain personal pleasure from sharing our family anecdotes).

