



## Shannon & Ben

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We'd be honored to take this journey with you.

Hello, we are Shannon and Ben and we are grateful that you made it to our profile. It is our intent to convey the unconditional love we can share with you and your child. We will do all we can to provide your child a loving home that is supported by many loving family and friends. As a gay couple, we know adoption is the next step in our journey to fulfilling our family dreams. We love our families, we love our dogs, we love our city, we love to travel,

# Our Story...

We met through a mutual friend many years ago and fate took it from there. Our first date was amazing, but Ben's work travel prevented a relationship, so we stayed in touch as friends and focused on our careers. Several years later, and no more long work trips for Ben, timing was perfect. Our second first date was even more amazing than the first! We dated for a few years, but we both knew we were already a family for life. On a late summer night while alone on our back porch Ben got on one knee and proposed. It was just the beginning!



## About Ben (By Shannon)...

Ben is a pretty quiet guy when you first meet him, but give him a bit of time and you realize how big of personality and heart he has. Ben is a creature of "the lake." He was raised on a small lake a couple hours outside of Columbus. Lake life is all about true family time, deep connection with long time friends, and water sports! His biggest smiles come when he's taking our niece and nephews out on the boat or playing in the water with our dogs. Ben loves the Green Bay Packers, Dr Pepper (terrible, I know), and our dogs Bella and Teddy. He likes to fix things, the dishwasher, the washing machine, the fridge... any day you can find him taking something apart and putting it back together again. Ben is the most caring and thoughtful guy I know. He is both patient and kind. He truly is our better half and will be an amazing father.



## About Shannon (By Ben)...

Shannon was born and raised in the area we live, and he has many family members living in nearby . His love for his family is something special, he would do anything to see them happy, healthy, and thriving in their own lives.



Shannon is the social-butterfly of the two of us. He gets his energy from others and is always lifting up those around him. His kind heart and positivity comes from his strong faith. He works very hard so we can travel as a family and experience the world in our own way. His free time is spent working out with the dogs or spending the day fishing at the lake. I've learned so much and experienced so many new things with Shannon and I am excited to see him do the same, and more, for a child living in our home.

## The Furbabies...

Bella and Teddy are the centers of our lives. They are our fur babies. Bella is a lab and Sharpei mix that came to us four years ago as a puppy. Teddy is 2 year old Lab mix that we rescued from the neighborhood. They are both gentle dogs, with a loud bark but love people and kids. They love to go anywhere we will take them, but they really love going to the lake and swimming with us.



Bella



Teddy

# Our Lives Together...

We have a great family home in the Central Ohio area with plenty of room for a growing family and nice backyard. We love going for walks in the neighborhood and parks with our dogs, and we love spending time



*Our valentines day tradition*

riding bikes on the nearby trails. We enjoy the city with all the art and culture, but we also enjoy our time spent in the peace and quiet of nature. Our home tends to be the gathering place for family, neighbors, and friends. We love the community we live in.

# Our Village...

Ben and I both come from very close families. Bens parents, his sister and brother in law and niece and nephew live at the Lake where Ben was raised. We



*Our Wedding Day*

spend considerable time, especially in the summer with them. Shannon's large family lives minutes away and are at our home several times a week. Above amazing family,



*The Squad*

Ben and Shannon have an incredible friend group. We call ourselves the "squad". All of these future aunties and uncles live nearby and are excited to dote on our child.

*Happy Halloween from our Family!*



My world changed six years ago when my 32 year old sister died unexpectedly. She left behind an eight year old daughter and an infant. We are raising Ryann and Christian as a family.

-Shannon



"Uncle Ben and Uncle Shannon will be great dads! I want to be a big cousin."

-Christian, 7 yrs old

# Travel and Traditions...



*Las Teranas, Dominican Republic*

We love to travel and explore the world. We believe there is so much to learn from experiencing different cultures up close and

personal. Since we've been together we've been blessed to visit Ghana, South Africa, the Netherlands, the Dominican Republic, the Bahamas, Costa Rica and Spain. The most important lesson we've learned from our travels is it's not where you go, but who you're with. We've taken to traveling as a family during the winter, creating a new tradition. Traditions are huge in our family. We've host Thanksgiving dinners at our home, and travel to Bens family for Christmas Eve. Our family hosts a large dinner after Easter Sunday church services. We can't wait to share this love for exploration and traditions with our child.

# Our Values...

We are committed to building our family in Central Ohio with the support of our family and friends. We know how important it is to have a good education. Ben's mother was a teacher for over 20 years and passed these values to us. We will seek the best opportunities for our children like our parents did for us. Shannon's favorite quote, "Service is the rent we pay for living on this Earth" is a guiding principle in our home. We will teach our children the importance of sharing their gifts with their community. Our families mean everything to us and our children will have the love and support of a large village.



**SERVICE**



**EDUCATION**



**FAMILY**

## Get to know us...

<b>Shannon</b>	<b>Our Favorites</b>	<b>Ben</b>
Cooking, Biking, and Bonfire	Hobbies	Waleboarding and Snowboarding
Caste by Isabel Wilkerson	Last Book Read	American War by Omar El Akkad
Donatos Pizza and Chicken Wings	Favorite Foods	Chicken Fingers and Hot Dogs
Thanksgiving	Favorite Holiday	Memorial Day
TikTok	Most Used App	Instagram
Games Attendant at Water Park	First Job	Gas Pumper at a marina

## Thank You...

We are truly thankful for your time in getting to know us a little better. We are ready to build our family and we would be honored if you considered us as parents. We are excited to be first time dads, and we are prepared for

the journey with a safe, healthy, and fun home for a child to thrive in. A child growing up in our home will know that they are loved by their parents and their birth mom.

