

# Family Snapshot



## Kyle & Stacey



Maggie



Fiona



Fran & her flock

Fran is our oldest chicken, and the fearless leader, of our backyard flock.

We also have a beehive in our backyard, although there are a few thousand too many bees to name!



We have spent countless days and nights trying to craft the perfect opening to what we believe is one of the most important letters of our lives. With limited space, we struggled finding the right words to convey exactly how much you already mean to us. We have immense love, gratitude, and respect for you, and so many dreams that the future may hold for us together. We want to share as much of our lives as possible, so you can see how the past fifteen years have led us to this moment. But, when writer's block kicked in, we realized that this profile is not a one-stop shop to learn all about us. Rather, this is an **invitation** for you. We invite you to take a glimpse into our lives, learn about our relationship, our values, our support system, and all the intricacies that make us who we are.

While this profile is centered on us, we have not lost sight that the process is about you and finding the family that you want nurturing, loving, and raising your child. Our road to parenthood has been an uphill climb, but we truly believe that our paths are intersecting for a reason. We are confident our challenges with infertility allowed us to fully open our hearts, our home, and our life to adoption. We know that this is the way forward, and cannot wait to grow our family *in collaboration* with you. We are open to being open, and would love to share the joy of your child's growth and development through letters, photos, and visits at your comfort level.

So, from the core of our being, **thank you**. Thank you for considering adoption, thank you for reviewing our profile, thank you for becoming part of our journey. We hope as you learn more about us, you can start to envision the life that we are building for your little one. We welcome your questions or requests for more information, and would love nothing more than to continue the conversation.

With love,

Kyle & Stacey



# Our Story

We went to the same high school, but it wasn't until college that we truly got to know each other. Our first "date" was on Halloween, when we both were volunteering for a Trick-or-Treat event for community children. A hard-to-ignore grape costume caught Kyle's attention, and neither of us looked back.



True to ourselves, we did things a little unconventionally. We first bought a home, then built our lives together piece by piece. In 2012, we started to talk marriage. In lieu of a traditional engagement with rings, we opted for our first international trip together: we hopped on a plane (Kyle's first ever) and were off to Costa Rica.



Holding a baby crocodile in Costa Rica

One year later, we got married in Antigua, with our closest friends and family by our side. When we got home, we hosted a backyard BBQ to celebrate with our loved ones who couldn't travel.



Stacey & her sister, Stephanie, at the BBQ

## About Kyle

Written by Stacey

Kyle is truly a Renaissance Man, as he has a wide array of talents and hobbies. A true DIY-er, he works tirelessly improving our home, and can tackle any project set before him, from building our two decks to constructing many pieces of furniture in our home. He often works alongside his dad, learning new skills, from electrical work to plumbing. I love watching the two of them work, and often envision Kyle passing these lessons onto our future child. Additionally, he keeps himself healthy by training for races (he is currently training for the half Iron Man), and exploring his ever-evolving hobbies, from rock climbing to 3D printing.

While truly accomplished as an adult, in truth, Kyle is still a big kid at heart. He loves building Legos (Star Wars sets are his favorite), playing laser tag, go-karting, and more. When we are with friends or family, you can usually find Kyle corralling the kids and leading the way with fun.

What I love most about Kyle is his never-ending support. He is my rock. His laidback demeanor has an instant calming affect. He is the most caring husband and, without a doubt, will make a spectacular father.



Kyle & his dad, Jim, at our wedding

## A few Favorites

We absolutely love to **travel together**! Currently, we have a goal of hiking in every national park in the US (we are currently at 31 parks).

We both lead active lifestyles year-round and **enjoy working out together**. In warm weather, we love biking, kayaking, hiking, & running. We are lucky to live in proximity to a national park, as well as countless beautiful local parks with well-developed trails and waterways. In the colder months, we take several ski trips both in and out of the state.

We are both **avid readers**, although Stacey outpaces Kyle each year, reading at least sixty books!

We love **playing board games** and hosting game nights! Azul, Settlers of Catan, Pictionary, & Scrabble are some favorites.

We also **appreciate lazy days** and unwind watching our binge-worthy shows with yummy snacks. *The Office* was our first ever binge-watch, *Game of Thrones* was our favorite, and *The Ozarks* was our most recent. Stacey prefers savory snacks, with her all time favorite being a mix of hot wing and mac n' cheese popcorn. Kyle, on the other hand, will go for anything sugary & sweet.





# About Stacey

Written by Kyle



Stacey & her mom,  
Nadia, in NY

It is impossible to paint a complete picture of someone when using only words, but here are the top adjectives that come to mind: fierce, loyal, loving, and adventurous. Stacey is a person with strong convictions, and her actions speak loudly for themselves. She will move mountains for anyone in need. Her empathetic nature is hard to miss, whether she is creating care packages for students in need, colleagues, or checking in on friends or family. She is also a highly organized, meticulous planner, who makes sure no detail is overlooked.

Stacey has a special bond with her mom. Growing up, her mom held leadership roles in the PTA, Girl Scouts, and the community summer camps. Whether it was sewing handmade Halloween costumes, planning unique birthday parties (the scavenger hunt one was the best!), her mom was always there. I know how much these memories impacted Stacey, and I am confident she will build a bond just as strong. The two of them talk daily, take yoga together, and share a love of all things gardening. Beyond being a "crazy plant lady", Stacey has a deep appreciation for nature and always makes sure that we are recycling and reusing. She is health conscious and loves cooking homemade meals from scratch. She believes that health involves the body *and* mind.

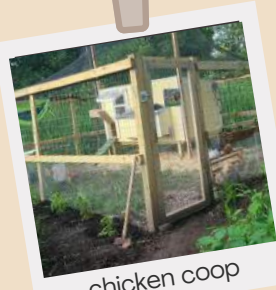
Most importantly, Stacey is a resilient person who will never give up on something she believes in. She is an inspirational wife, daughter, sister, and friend, and I cannot wait to watch her grow into her new role as a mother.

## Our Careers:

Kyle works in sales, where his personable approach and dry sense of humor make people laugh each day. Stacey is a 7th grade English teacher, where her emphasis on the whole child allows her to forge deep connections and reach a wide-range of students' needs and abilities. Both of our jobs offer excellent benefits and schedules (Stacey loves having summers off!), allowing us to prioritize our family needs.



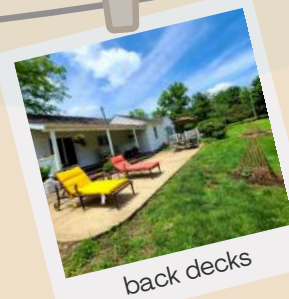
fishing pond



chicken coop



walking trails



back decks



garden

## Home Sweet Home

When we were looking for our forever home, we had quite a wish list: we wanted a historic home close to our families, in a top-rated school district, with at least three acres of land, and plenty of room to grow. It took a while, but when the house hit the market, it was love at first sight.

The first thing you notice about our farmhouse, built in 1830, is the white picket fence. The charm continues inside, as the four bedroom, three bath home has been lovingly restored and updated. The home sits on almost four acres and backs into a nature preserve, giving us privacy galore. We have open green space, a large fenced-in garden, fruit trees (apple, pear, cherry), berry patches (raspberry, blackberry, blueberries, strawberries), a bubbling creek, a pond, and walking trails. We love the sense of solitude, but are less than one mile from our local schools (top 4% in the state), and only minutes away from local parks, playgrounds, rec centers, stores, and restaurants. It is our slice of paradise, and we are so excited to watch our family grow here.

## Furry & Feathered Friends

We are absolute animal lovers, and our pets are extensions of our family. At 12 years old, Maggie is an independent gal, who prefers to spend her days lazing around, meandering to the creek, and sneaking treats. Fiona is the opposite: at five years old, she is showing no signs of slowing down. She is always by our side and brimming with energy. Both pups get complimented on their demeanor so much that we worry it'll go to their heads! Birthdays are a big deal, and each year, the girls get burgers, ice-cream, and matching toys.

We also have 12 chickens (each named & loved) in our backyard, who are laying an assortment of eggs each day.

Finally, we are novice beekeepers, who are primarily interested in helping the endangered species. However, harvesting the honey definitely sweetens the deal!



# Our Families

Kyle has an older sister, Tracy, and a twin brother, Kevin. Depending on who is in the room, both brothers claim to be the eldest. In fact, Kyle and Kevin still compete with each other to this day, including signing up for the same triathlons! Both Kyle's parents and siblings – along with a niece, nephew – live within a fifteen minute drive.



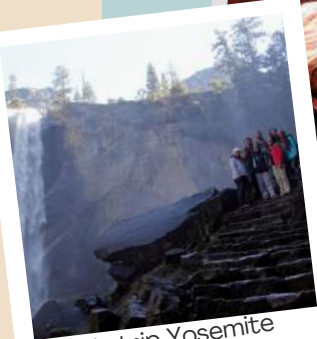
Concert with Kevin



Family wedding



Family trip to Glacier National Park



Family trip Yosemite National Park



Visiting James



3 generations of women on Stacey's side

We are blessed to not only have such close relationships with our families, but to have watched the relationship **between** our families grow over the years. Our parents have become friends and we not only see each other for birthdays or cookouts, but travel together. In fact, it is not uncommon for a trip to involve our parents, siblings, cousins, and friends. Together, we've swam with sharks, climbed mountains (causing some grumbling with the parents), trekked glaciers and experienced some awe-inspiring experiences... while also remembering that the **little moments**, like a Sunday brunch, walk with the dogs, or well-timed phone call matter just as much. We believe in making time for the big and small, as long as you are laughing, loving, and leaning on each other. Our whole family is excited for more to join in on the fun.

We value our **relationships**.

We value **respect** for each other and our planet.

We value **integrity & honesty**. We believe choosing what is right, versus what is easy. We will be honest about the adoption from day one.

We value **diversity** and making the world a place where people are free to be their authentic selves. We believe there is a benefit to learning from those who are different from us. Our experience volunteering for an international exchange program for high school students reinforced this ideal, as we gained so much through both the hosting and travel phases; we still have a strong friendship with the leader from Portugal.

We value **being inclusive** and standing up for those who are struggling and marginalized, for we all become stronger by lifting each other up.

We value **lifelong learning**, recognizing that no two people learn alike. We both have our Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, and will work to spark a love of learning – in all its various forms – from a young age. We will plan for the future costs of education and will always encourage following one's heart over a predetermined path.

We value **YOU**. We want you to feel comfortable in this process and we want to meet you where you are. Together, we hope to create an adoption plan that fits your needs, hopes, and dreams for all the future holds.

Stacey has an older sister, Stephanie, and a younger brother, James. Her mother and sister also live within a fifteen minute drive. Her brother travels often for work, and is currently in Arizona. We don't mind **too** much though, because we've planned several awesome trips out to see him.



One of our favorite family traditions is creating and blessing our Ukrainian Easter baskets!



We have a lot of Christmas traditions, from cutting down a tree at a local farm to festivities on both sides of the family!

## Our Traditions & Values