

# David & Sarah



## HELLO!

We have no idea how to write an adoption introduction letter, so we will keep it simple: We are two people who love each other and find so much happiness in the world. We are excited to be parents. Raising a child, sharing happiness with them, and seeing them grow as their own person is a dream of ours. While we cannot become parents on our own we know the universe has a different path to parenthood for us. Our hope is that these brief pages will help you get to know us and decide if our families are the right fit. Thank you so much for reading on!

## Parenting

We are excited to provide a loving and safe home for our children while trying to be the best parents we can be. Our feeling is that great parents allow a child to explore and discover but also provide guidance, encouragement, and a good amount of structure. We want to be parents who let children try as many things as possible while maintaining a foundation of love, kindness, and respect for all. Our favorite motto is to work hard and be nice to people. We feel strongly

in supporting the ideas and passion of the child and letting him or her be themselves. We know we're not perfect - in fact, we embrace imperfections and unique ways of looking at the world! We believe children learn by making mistakes and getting back up again, and we would love to provide an unconditionally safe and supportive place for a child to blossom! We don't quit when things get hard. We just love more.

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**Photo information:** 1. David, Sarah and Madeline at David's parents' house.

## Sarah

**DOB:**

August 21

**Height:**

5 feet 4.5 inches

**Sign:**

Leo/Virgo Cusp

**Family:**

Eric (Dad), Becky (Mom)  
& Mike (Step-Dad) Aaron,  
J.C., Will (Brothers)

**Occupation:**

Graphic Designer

**Education:**

Went to Graduate School for  
visual communication design

**Humour:**

YES

**Favorite Activity:**

Being active: yoga, mountain  
biking, swimming, dog  
walks, and camping. If there's  
a possibility for getting dirty  
- I'm in!

**Favorite Food:**

Pizza or Mexican

**Music:**

Fast Car - Tracy Chapman  
90s hip hop  
Anything by The National

**Favorite Holiday:**

ALL Birthdays

## David discussing Sarah

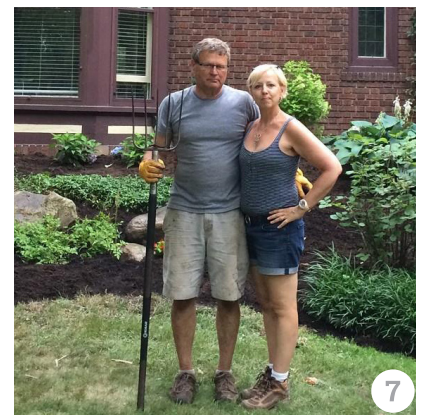
Sarah is the most genuine person I have ever met. She will talk to anyone and always lift a helping hand to anyone in need. Just the other day I came out of the house and did not see Sarah's car. A few minutes later she drove up the driveway and I asked her where she had gone. Apparently, there was a person walking down the street who asked Sarah for directions to the train stop. Sarah decided it was too far of a walk and drove him to the station. I love this story because little things like this change the world in small ways, and Sarah's kindness changes the world in big ways by helping so many in small ways.

Sarah is a tough and adventurous woman. When things get hard, cold, or nasty Sarah somehow finds the positivity and determination to get through it. One of my favorite stories about Sarah is how she survived a month in the wilderness of Utah. Sarah was one of only a handful of people in the Outward Bound group who finished. When I met Sarah I was not very adventurous, but somehow she turned me into an avid mountain biker, got me okay with falling into rivers, and showed me how to survive at least a day in the woods!



## About our family

We are very lucky to have a loving and supportive family. Between the two of us we have four parents (one stepparent), six brothers, three sister-in-laws, and six nieces and nephews between the ages of one month and six years. We are honored to be Godparents to our youngest nephew. All of our family live within forty minutes of our home, so we are fortunate to get to see them quite often. David spends a lot of time with his brothers who are his best friends. Sarah loves going to estate sales with her mom. They are both in pursuit of treasures (or things to repair). While we were not spoiled as kids, our parents spoil us as adults through helping us with so many things. David's parents are amazing gardeners and helped us landscape our entire yard. Sarah's mom has performed minor miracles by helping us save dying plants, repair and install a washing machine, and paint our entire upstairs bedroom.



2. Heather (close friend) and Sarah at a wedding 3. SARAH AND AARON HELD BABY TIGERS 4. Mother's Day selfie  
5. Sarah's mom outside the CRAZIEST estate sale ever 6. Gartman family photo 7. David's parents Rick and Annie doing of  
best American Gothic impression after helping us with our landscape when we first moved in



## David

**DOB:**

March 7

**Height:**

5 feet 11 inches

**Sign:**

Pisces

**Family:**

Rick (Dad), Anne (Mom)  
Matt, Steven, Tim (Brothers), Evan,  
Eleanor, Linus, Calvin, Henry, and  
Benji (Nieces and Nephews)

**Occupation:**

Economist at a large Bank

**Education:**

Went to graduate school for  
Economic Development and  
Urban Planning

**Humour:**

Sometimes funny (thinks he is  
always funny)

**Favorite Activity:**

Bike rides! David loves all  
biking. He currently has about  
10 bicycles just in case they  
stop making bikes.

**Favorite Food:**

Mexican

**Music:**

Pizza or Mexican

**Favorite Holiday:**

Christmas

## Sarah discussing David

One thing about David that I love is that he is completely himself all the time. He is intelligent, analytical, humble, kind, witty and a bit nervous. He is the yin to my yang in many ways. While I might jump in head first to whatever messy endeavor I fancy David will ask questions and make sure we are all safe and responsible.

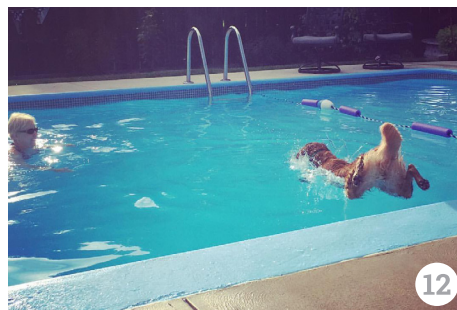
David has an uncanny way of making connections in the world around him. He strives to really get to know people. He does this by taking a genuine interest in people and asks questions and remembers the answers - that make people feel like they matter. By actually caring about people he creates life long friends that love the heck out of him. His laugh and bright smile will warm any room.



## Fur Kids

Animals are a huge part of our lives. We have had a ton of great cats through our many years together. Currently we have a fat orange fluffy cat named Ruth Biter Ginsberg (Ruthie or Butterball) and a slender older gal named Ticia. Our latest edition is Francisco Lindor (Frankie, named after one of our favorite Cleveland Indians players) he is the most disheveled fluffy black cat you have ever seen. He loves being outsidie, cuddles and headbutts when he needs love.

Two years ago we lucked upon a beautiful Golden Retriever puppy we named Madeleine Albright (Mads, Maddie, Madeloon.) She is the sweetest dog and is so loving to the many nieces and nephews in our family. Mads LOVES playing fetch and she is an avid swimmer. During the summer months we love taking her to pools and lakes to throw the ball and watch her swim.



8. Father-son 60-mile 9. Indians game with Will and our Chinese exchange student 10. David and Linus on Father's Day 11. Maddie going crazy because of the snow 12. Maddie at Matt and Laurie's pool swimming 13. Ruthie and Ticia sunbathing

## How we met

**SARAH:** Let me paint a picture: I was a server during Sunday brunch at a small Italian restaurant. There was this cute guy who started coming in with a group of my friends. He was a witty, snappy dresser and the banter between us was so silly and fun. After two months, David finally got the courage to ask me out. I was so excited until our first phone call when I found out that he had four cats. I had two cats of my own – two plus four equals SIX cats. How could I have a future with this man?!?! Somehow the fun and friendship we created made the fear of being a crazy cat lady in my mid-twenties go away, and several years later, we got married. And here we are 11 years later.



## Our Home

We live in a 1919 brick tudor house. It is a wonderful community full of diverse and creative people. Our house is right across from the elementary school and we have dreamed of walking our children to school. The neighborhood is quite active with many kids playing at the park, families walking their dogs, and neighbors taking care of their houses. We think some of the coolest parts of our neighborhood are our friendly neighbors, many large trees, an ice skating pond, and the huge city park that is all around us. There is even a family that raises chickens two houses down.



## Our Beliefs

**SARAH:** I did not grow up in a religious family. While going to church on the major holidays my mom felt that God didn't care what you wore he just cared that you were there.

When I got a bit older I loved learning about religion in college and was super drawn to the eastern philosophies towards being. I believe in karma, I believe being a good person is not only contagious but important for our society. I believe that everything happens for a reason and there is a plan. I am definitely one of those people that learns from making mistakes. In mountain biking they say "if you aren't falling you aren't learning." I can honestly say that I would not be who I am without all of my journey.

**DAVID:** I grew up in a Lutheran household and went to Lutheran schools from kindergarten to high school. While I am a bit disillusioned by formal religions, I still value and nurture my spirituality. I try to always keep my faith in Jesus's message of loving your neighbor as you love yourself. I ground myself in key principals of working hard, being kind, and believing that every person is unique and has a special purpose. Additionally, I believe that living these values is the best way to share them with others, including children.

## Thank you so much

for taking the time to get to know us and considering our family. We are so excited to grow our family and share humour, adventure, and kindness. We know that this is a huge decisions and wish you all the best in your journey.