

# JOSH + RUSS



*Our wedding celebration*

## GET TO KNOW US

Hello and welcome to our life! We are Josh and Russ, and are thrilled you're taking the time to get to know us. After 10 years together, it's time to expand our family through adoption. Currently, our home is a busy home, with two cats and two dogs completing our family. We've built our lives around each other, family, and friends, and are lucky to have a strong support system both near and far. We've loved opening our home to our pets and know we are prepared to add a little human(s) to our wild crew. That's where Adoption Circle comes in. We hope you enjoy getting to know us and we appreciate your consideration!



*Our engagement and date night*



*Joshua Tree National Park and our engagement*



## JOSH - BY RUSS

"Josh is as genuine as they come. From the day I met him to today, he is the same fun-loving, spontaneous, and adventurous person that had me smitten. I love how I always know that Josh will be a calm, caring, and supportive voice in my life, and appreciate every single thing he's done for our relationship. I'm so proud of him, from being my rock, to working on his PhD, he really takes life full speed. The animals already refer to him as 'Tall Dad' and I can't wait to see him as a father." - Russ

## RUSS - BY JOSH

"When I first met Russ I knew there was something special about him - and we've been inseparable ever since. His sense of humor, wit, and loyalty to his friends and family are unmatched. Also, no one is a bigger animal lover than 'Short Dad', the nickname the pets gave him. What I love most about Russ is his excitement for everything - from a spontaneous coffee date - to his favorite holidays. He brings so much joy to my life and I can't imagine raising a child with anyone other than him." - Josh

# OUR STORY

We met online in 2013 and became each others' best friend throughout the next year. Our jobs kept us busy, and at times apart, but our commitment to one another remained strong. After a period spent working in New York City, Josh relocated to be with Russ allowing us to continue building our lives together.

After 6 years together, Josh proposed to Russ in a favorite local park of ours, close to our apartment. Next came wedding planning. All of our plans were turned upside down due to the pandemic, but we rolled with the punches and had an intimate 32-person ceremony with our closest family and friends.

It wasn't long after our wedding when we decided it was time for our first home. A relatively quick timeline led us to our home today. Now, after 10 years together, we love the life we have built with our four fur-children along with us on this journey. Having a child as part of our family will make it even more complete, allowing us to share our love, experiences, and lives with a very special new family member.

## THE ADOPTION PROCESS

We understand this is a major life decision - for both you and us. Some of Josh's immediate family are adoptees and understand the complexity and the beauty of this process. We are open to sharing major life updates. However we will always remind the little one where they came from - with as little or as much information as you're comfortable with.



*Engagement photo*



*Marching in our city's annual pride parade*



*Wedding day*

## EDUCATION & CAREERS

Josh graduated with a Bachelor's in political science and he also was a member of their varsity swim team. He went on to complete his Master's in Information Technology. Currently, he is nearing completion of his PhD in Computer Science. He writes machine learning algorithms for a large consulting company.

Russ graduated with a Bachelor's in both Marketing and Journalism. Like Josh, he went on to earn his Master's in Information Technology. He works in data analytics for a large retailer.

# FAMILY + FUN



*Florida with Josh's mom and stepdad*



*Brunch with Russ' family and friends*



*Christmas with Josh's dad, stepmom, and grandparents*

## ONE BIG FAMILY

Family plays a large part in our lives. Josh is an only child, so he gets all the love and attention from his dad and stepmom, and his mom and stepdad. His dad and stepmom live a two-hour drive away from us, so weekend visits are easy and a great way to connect with family. His mom and stepdad live in Florida, and while further away, visiting them makes a great vacation. Russ' family lives local to where we live. He is close with his parents, as well as his sister and brother-in-law, and their two-year-old niece.

We are very close to all of our families, and enjoy seeing them as regularly as possible. From holiday gatherings, vacations, dinners, or enjoying local activities, we prioritize spending time with the ones we love. We also enjoy babysitting our two-year-old niece. She keeps us on our toes and has definitely helped prepare us for parenthood.



*Thingvellir National Park, Iceland*

## OUR TRAVELS

One of the ways we love to spend time together is traveling and creating new family memories. Whether we're visiting Josh's parents down in Florida, hiking out west in Arizona, or trips abroad we love to see as much of the world as we can. In the future we'd love to take family road trips to the National Parks.

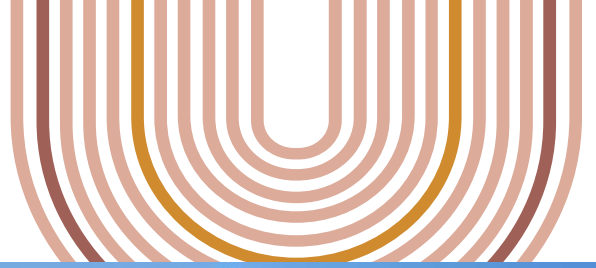


*Saguaro National Park, AZ*



*Big Sur, CA*

# OUR HOME + PETS



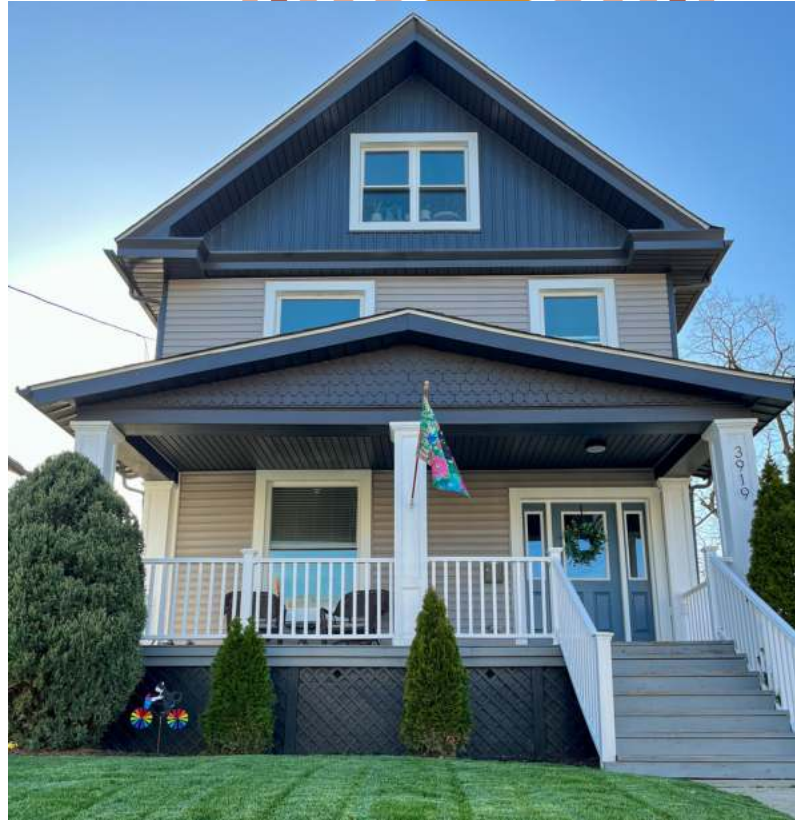
## OUR HOUSE

A few months after our wedding we decided to put down roots and purchased our home in early 2021. We love our neighborhood with old homes, quiet streets, and plenty of other families. The location is ideal, close to great public schools and our favorite neighborhood ice cream walk-up window.

Our home was built in 1910, and was completely renovated in 2020. The home retains aspects of it's historic character with the amenities of newer homes.

Russ loves his yard work. If the weather is nice, you'll find him mowing the lawn, watering the grass, trees and plants, or changing out his collection of garden flags.

Holidays also play a huge part in our lives and home. Decorating for Halloween and Christmas, both inside and out, are two of our favorite things. You're never too old to act like a kid again during the holidays.



*Our home*



*Christmas card with our pets- Hazel, Ethel, Ophelia, and Tucker*

## THE PETS

Both of us are huge animal lovers and view our pets as full-fledged family members! We have two cats (Hazel and Ethel) and two dogs (Tucker and Ophelia) who keep our home spontaneous and entertaining.

The cats and dogs have grown close over the years and see each other as best friends, if not siblings. The dogs enjoy bringing their toys to the cats but the cats would rather chill out with the dogs in the back yard. The dogs always enjoy a nice walk around the neighborhood, down the local bike path, or on the trails at parks nearby.

## THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to get know us and our family. Our hope is that by learning more about our lives, you will be confident and comfortable with considering us as adoptive parents for your child. We've made many great memories over the last 10 years, and we are thrilled at the opportunity to share our lives and these experiences with our little one in the future.