

# Jen & Chris



Thank you for taking the time to learn about us and our family! It's hard to give the full picture of who we are in this limited space, but we are going to try! Hopefully the pictures and notes help you to imagine what life is like in our home.

There is a saying that "Love Multiplies" and this is so true with the adoption journey that we are all on. We have been direct witnesses to this when we welcomed our daughter, Aspen, through an open adoption in early 2019. Should our family have the chance to grow with you, our goal will be to make sure that your baby knows where they fit into all of this love- right in the middle- surrounded by support, positive thoughts, guidance, and the unconditionality that goes with it from all sides of their family.

If you are at this point in your experience, we realize that you have likely arrived here with hours of thought, consideration, contemplation, worry, and tears. Our admiration and respect for you is incomparable. We would love the chance to meet you and while we prefer an open adoption, we respect whatever you are most comfortable with and will take things one step at a time.

We are committed to each other and to growing our family that means so much to us. We cannot wait to share our love of outdoor fun, road trips, and life on the water with another little one. We are grateful for this opportunity and are praying for guidance and grace as we all walk this road.

Thank you so much for considering us to parent your sweet baby.



# About Us

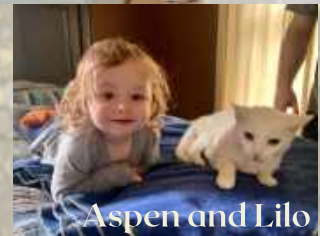
Hi! We are Jen and Chris! We grew up in the same hometown area and after going to college, we ran into each other at our family annual holiday party. We connected on the following St. Patrick's Day at our favorite Irish Pub and have been together ever since. Married 6.5 years and together 10, we are an active family and are always on the go. Visiting family out of town, spending time outdoors, and taking advantage of all that our nearby city has to offer keeps us busy.

Adoption was discussed early in our relationship and we were over the moon when we welcomed our daughter, Aspen, through an open adoption in April of 2019. Jen is not able to conceive biologically and we'd like to continue to multiply the love through adoption once more. We love sharing new experiences with Aspen- from exploring local parks and museums to playtimes with our circle of friends to fun by the lake or beach.

It's not uncommon to find us spending time around our pool, hiking in the woods around our home, boating, waterskiing, fishing, and/or snow skiing with our favorite people and pets. We are always on the go. We have 2 dogs (Lucy and Sadie) who join us on the majority of our adventures and one kitty (Lilo) who holds down the fort at home. Jen works part time in marketing and training for a property management firm and Chris is a project manager for a concrete firm.



Our first real date



Aspen and Lilo



It's safe to say that Jen has passed on her love of animals to Aspen!



We love fishing! Aspen really enjoys going with mom and dad!

## About Jen

Jen is the most caring person I have ever met. She truly listens to people, whether they are telling exciting stories or going through a tough time. She is quick to offer help if anyone needs it. Jen is also very passionate. Since graduating college with her Bachelor's Degree, she has pursued and received her certification for massage therapy as well as teaching yoga. She did both of these not to make money but to be able to help friends and family. She is also extremely loving. No matter what we are going through from moving, to planning our wedding from 1,200 miles away, her love for me and our families has been a rock for us. It is the glue that holds us together. Seeing her with our daughter is amazing. She is so loving and caring and always knows what Aspen needs.

## About Chris

Chris is an incredible husband and true friend. It has been so awesome seeing him become a daddy and learning to parent with him. Chris is one of the hardest working people that I've ever met. He is extremely determined and confident in himself and his work. He is a great story teller and his energy and passion were the first things that drew me to him. Seeing these attributes applied as a father have opened my eyes to even more dimensions in his character that I admire. His kind heart just keeps growing. I love that he is full of surprises and he doesn't always fit into the box that people may try to put him in. (Do you know any other concrete workers who play saxophone AND waterski competitively? 😊) While Chris is a "man's man" kind of guy, he's also incredibly thoughtful and considerate. I admire Chris' desire to provide and to be independent. If he gives you his word he keeps it. He works hard and plays harder. Aspen and I are two very lucky ladies to have him and we love and appreciate him so much!



# Aspen

Aspen is an absolute joy bomb. She is a ball of energy, very talkative, independent, and expressive. She loves making people laugh and her giggle is heart-melting. She really loves dancing to whatever music we play- and music is always on in our house. She sings all of the time and we read every day. She adores our pups and our kitty and insists on kissing them goodnight before bed. Like us, Aspen LOVES the outdoors, playing with leaves, sticks, and getting as dirty as possible! She also loves sharing adventures with her cousins and friends. It has been so sweet to see her natural "Big Sister" instinct kick in with her newest little cousin. She and her big sister (biological) share a very special bond and are so much fun and are WILD when together. It's honestly the best. To see her with a sibling in our home would be a dream come true. We know that she will love having someone with whom she can play and gang up on mom and dad one day!



FL. with Jen's Side of the Family



Left: Family hike at our house!  
This is by our neighbor's pond  
where we like to go fishing.

## Our Family

We are very close with both of our extended families. Whether it's meeting for dinner, weekend bonfires, or birthday celebrations, we spend much of our free time together and supporting one another. For the holidays, we have big get togethers with both sides of our family. Our celebrations tend to keep us pretty close to home, but we do share annual vacations typically in Florida for sun and fishing or in northern Michigan for snow skiing.

Between the two of us, we have a total of 4 siblings, all of whom are married. Both sets of our parents have been married for 40 years! Our extended families are large, funny, loving, and loud. To say our families are excited for us to add another addition to our family is an understatement.

While we may not live around the corner from our families, we do see them frequently. Facetime, road trips, and over-night visits at one another's homes are part of our daily lives.

When we welcomed Aspen, we were blessed with even more family! We have grown in love and numbers as we share an open adoption with Aspen's birth family. We visit as much as we can (our goal is monthly) and exchange calls, texts, pictures and facetime regularly. We are so grateful to have them in our lives and for their support as our family continues to grow.



Birthday Celebrations with Chris' Side  
of the Family



Aspen and her cousin Jackson



Left: Jen, Chris' Sister, Emily,  
and our Niece, Ellie



Above: Chris and  
Papaw



Right: Family Day with  
Aspen's First Mom  
and Big Sister



# Our Home

We live just outside of the city in a ranch style home on 6 acres. It is the perfect location being minutes from the city, with the wide-open space of the country. It's the best of both worlds for us. We have 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. We are on the top of a hill with a lot of woods and wildlife around. We see deer, owls, squirrels, rabbits, coyotes, fox, hawks and bald eagles regularly. A little over an acre is mowed and we have a large garden as well as blackberry bushes and a pear tree. We plant a large garden every year and can our own fruits and veggies and are always working on a home improvement project. We have a big concrete deck surrounding our pool that we love enjoying with family and friends.



Below: The driveway to our home  
Below Left: Aspen running in our yard

Our House



## Why Adoption

Adoption was discussed very early in our relationship and always remained on our hearts. After several years of surgeries and Dr. appointments, we put all of our energy into adoption. Within weeks of welcoming our daughter, Jen underwent a surgery, making conceiving biologically impossible. That aside, we knew that continuing to grow our family was something that we both really wanted. We have always known that we wanted more than one child in our home. No matter what, your child will grow always knowing of the irreplaceable love that you have for them and will be encouraged to be proud of who they are, including ALL sides of their family.



Above: Sledding in our yard  
Below: Toes in the sand!



## Fun Facts and Favorites

	Chris	Jen
Desert:	Crepe Brule	Brownies
Book:	Harry Potter Series	Eat, Pray, Love
Movie:	Super Troopers	Almost Famous
Vacation Spot:	Colorado	On a Beach
Sport:	Water Skiing	Football
Holiday:	Christmas	Thanksgiving
Random Fact:	Plays Saxophone	True Crime Junkie

Aspen and her buddy, Liam



Celebrating after Jen's race



Deep Sea Fishing with Family



4th of July Costume Contest with Cousins

Chris and his buddy in Idaho

Skiing in MI

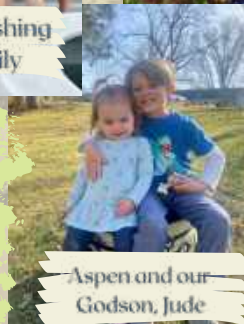


Family hike with Aspen's First Mom and Big Sis



Thank you for considering our family ♥  
With Love,  
Chris, Jen, & Aspen

Aspen and our Godson, Jude



Aquarium Exploring



NYC Trip

