



RJ & Andrea



Dear Birthparent,

Thanks you so much for taking the time to read about us. Let us introduce ourselves and tell you about our family. We are RJ and Andrea.

We met 5 years ago through my twin brother, who went to college with RJ. Our first date was in June and after that we have been inseparable. We got engaged 3 months after we met and married 3 months after that on New Year's Eve. Through our marriage we have had incredible highs and also had our lows but with that comes learning about ourselves and our marriage. But with that we know that God has a plan for us and are can't wait to see where He takes us!

RJ is a Manager at the Walmart Distribution Center where he has been working for 13 years. He is a great leader and has the respect of all of his co-workers for his incredible work ethic. Andrea has been a hairdresser for over 15 years and loves every aspect of her job especially the interaction that she is able to have with her clients. Together, Andrea and RJ own the hair salon that Andrea works at.

We live in a wonderful small but up and coming town. We are very fortunate to have great families that we are extremely close with! RJ's family lives in the same small town as we do while Andrea's family lives only about 15 minutes away. Since both of our families live so close we are blessed to be a significant part of our nieces and nephews lives.

We have been foster parents. We have had 3 wonderful children who have become the best part of our lives. Through this process we have also had our hearts broken but in the end we know that God heals and he never fails.

RJ and Andrea



A little about us:

	RJ	ANDREA
COLOR-	Blue	Pink
FOOD-	Chocolate	Pizza
ANIMAL -	Dog	Dog
HOLIDAY-	Christmas	Fourth of July
CHILDREN'S BOOK-	Corduroy	Goodnight Moon
MOVIE-	Shawshank Redemption	Pride and Prejudice
TV SHOW-	Sports Center	Downton Abbey
VACATION-	Cruising	Going on a Cruise
CHILDHOOD MEMORY-	playing flag football	being with family

Our story



Andrea grew up in a rural country setting where she was very close with all her neighbors and had a wonderful childhood. Her parents have always been supportive of her no matter what. Andrea excelled in sports and was very athletic. She found her niche athletically with running cross country and track as well as playing basketball. Andrea loves talking with people and helping them feel better about themselves so she decided to attend cosmetology school. Through her chosen profession she knew she could accomplish her dream of helping people!

RJ also grew up in a rural country setting but unfortunately had to move into town when his family lost their home to a flood. He did very well in school but really excelled outside of the classroom in cross country. Through his running abilities he was able to get a scholarship to attend college. RJ has even qualified and ran in the Boston marathon.

RJ and Andrea knew of each other for about 8 years but never really met until Andrea's twin brother set them up 5 years ago. RJ went to college and was also a teammate with Andrea's twin brother. We both knew after our first date that we had found the one. We got married 6 months after we officially met. When we found out we could not have children of our own we knew we wanted to adopt. Soon after that we decided to become foster parents, which is the best and hardest thing we have ever done. We are so excited to start this new journey!



RJ written by Andrea

RJ has the ability to put a smile on everyone's face. He is very kind, caring, and thoughtful, just a few of his amazing qualities. The way he always puts someone else first is admiring. I love Sundays because every Sunday RJ brings me fresh flowers. He can make friends everywhere. It seems like no matter where we go people talk to us and tell us

there life story. RJ has that effect on people. To him everyone matters. He is my rock, my soul mate, and my best friend.

We have been foster parents and we have had 3 wonderful kids. With fostering I have seen a totally different side of him. It has made me love him even more. He has been such a great foster dad. I'm in total awe of him. He is patient, understanding, and loves to play with them. I will never forget when I came home from work and RJ has bows and clips in his hair with nails painted. He was always there for them and still will be if needed.

Andrea written by RJ

I met Andrea five years ago. I knew after our first date she was the one I wanted to spend the rest of my life with. She is loyal, funny, hardworking, caring, and has been a great mother. We don't have any kids of our own but we have had three wonderful foster children. From day one they were her kids. She spent countless sleepless nights feeding, reading stories, and chasing monsters from underneath the bed. Andrea is the most creative and artistic person I know. She is always making some kind of craft. She loves to get the kids involved with them. Andrea is such a beautiful person inside and out. I love her more and more each day. When I'm having a bad day she is my rock. She always has the right thing to say to make me laugh or feel better.

Andrea has a great family. Her family is so loving and caring and would do anything for anyone. Her parents have treated each of our foster children as their own grandkids. They have loved and spoiled them. We love to have cookouts, babysit, and just hanging out.



Our home



We live in a 3 bedroom 3 bath home that is situated on a lane with only 5 other houses. Our home has a large fenced in back yard and is in close proximity to a little wooded area. We live just outside of the city but close to everything that we need. Our school district is very good with great reviews. We also live right down the road from our church. It is the perfect house for us and our expanding family.



Brutus



Scarlet Grey



Miley



Cruising the night away



Andrea twinning her niece



Hanging out with Rafiki at the Animal Kingdom



Exploring caves in Mexico



Smiling at Epcot



Watching the game with our niece



Smile



Weddings with friends



Posing with Peggy the elephant

Our family & friends

We have three dogs; a German Shepard, dachshund, and a half Chihuahua and Yorkie mix. They loved all our foster children and our nieces and nephews. They love to play, cuddle and are wonderful with children.

We are very close to both sides of our family and they are a great support system for us with all aspects of our lives. RJ has a sister, who along with her husband, have a little girl and boy and we love to spend time with them. Andrea has an older brother, who along with his wife, have a little girl and boy. We love to babysit and spend lots of time with all our nieces and nephews.

Andrea also has a twin brother who she is very close with. We always have Sunday “funday” with both sides of the family.



Christmas party with Andrea's family



Family pictures on the beach with Andrea's family



Race day with RJ's sister and dad



Grandma's 93 birthday with Andrea's family



Walk for a cure with RJ's family



Smiling at Disney studios with Andrea's family



Andrea's twin brother



Magic kingdom with RJ's family



Ready, set, race with RJ's family



Andrea's parents posing for a picture



Happy birthday to our niece.



Spending time with our niece



Cake time with Andrea's older brother and his family



RJ and his mom