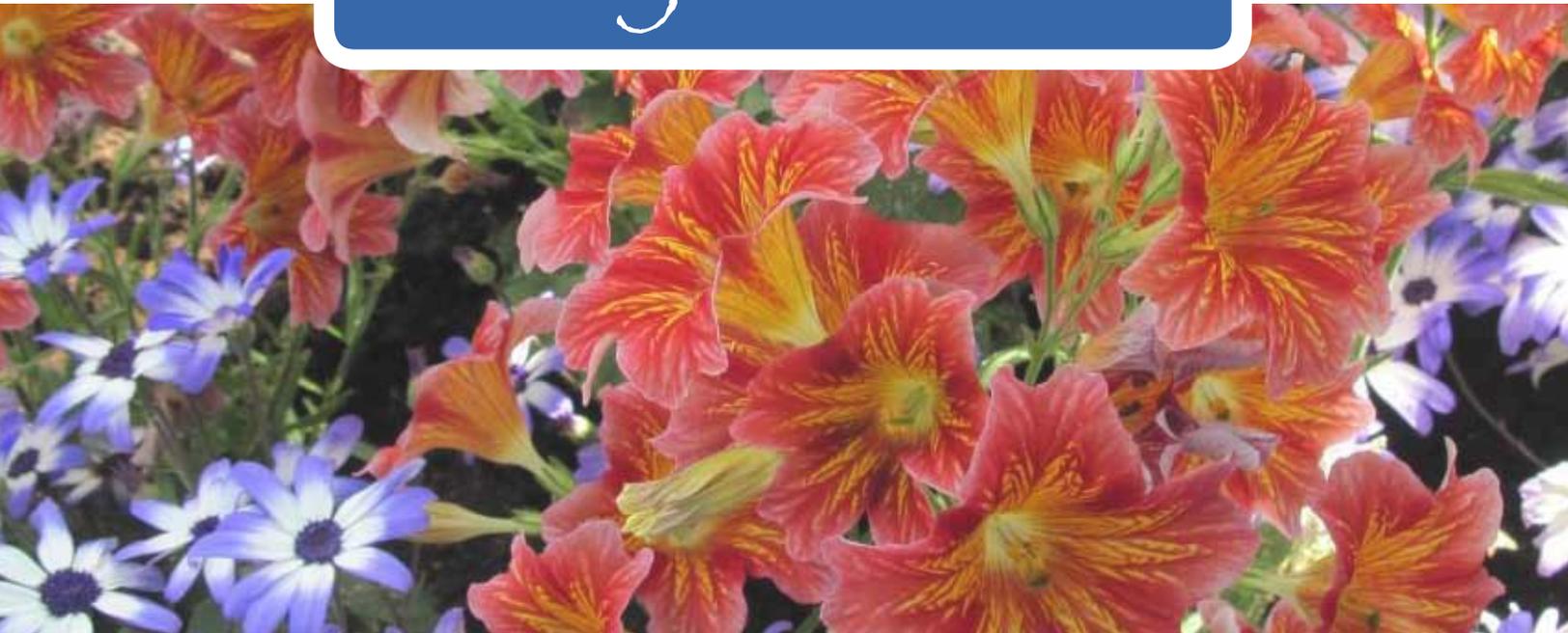


Tony & Joann



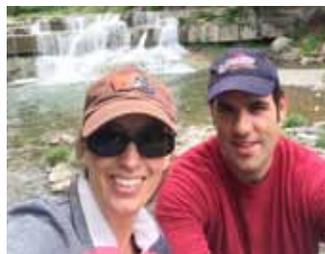
About Us



Beat the odds, bet on love. That's the slogan for eHarmony, a dating website. That is exactly what we did, and where we first met each other. Both sick of the bar scene, we took a chance on something completely foreign to us, and it really paid off! We exchanged emails and phone calls for a couple weeks. After learning a bit about each other (Joann was impressed that Tony could play the guitar, and Tony was impressed that Joann knew how to change a car tire), we set our first date, where we rapidly discovered how much we had in common. Right away we started dating and have been together ever since. After dating for three years, and married for seven, we can't imagine life without one another! Since then we moved into our new house, and adopted our two lovable kitties. We adopted Nemo as a kitten, and a couple years later Mia. They both have so much energy, love to play, and snuggle!

Both of us love to travel, and together we have travelled the world. From South America to Europe, we love submersing ourselves in the culture and traditions of the locals. We believe, that by experiencing different ways of life, and learning the history of an area, you keep an open mind and can really appreciate the differences in cultures and make you more tolerant people. One of Tony's favorite trips was to Greece, where he got to visit where his mother was born, and his grandpa and grandma "Papou and Yiayia" are from. Those years of Greek school growing up really paid off, as Tony was able to converse with the locals in the "native tongue!" One of Joann's favorite trips was to Machu Picchu in Lima, Peru. Climbing that mountain was one of the most physically and mentally challenging things she ever had to do, yet at the same time, one of the most rewarding.

Tony always had an interest in mechanical things, so it makes sense that he became a mechanical engineer and now is project manager in the aerospace industry. Joann has a very fulfilling career as an eye doctor, working about 28 hours per week. She loves giving kids their first pair of glasses and when they notice for the first time that the trees have leaves! We both believe strongly in great education, as both of our careers would not have been possible without it. Our jobs are both very rewarding, stable, and flexible making balancing life and work easy.



Joann's Favorites

Occupation: Optometrist
Favorite food: Tacos
Favorite season: Fall
Favorite scent: Camp fire
Favorite vacation: Climbing Machu Picchu in Peru
Favorite childhood memory: Boating and the beach at the family lake house
Hobbies: Reading, working out, traveling, skiing
Fun facts: Joann played basketball in school. She would only answer to her nickname "JoJo" until 3rd grade. Joann cannot whistle despite her best efforts.

Tony's Favorites

Occupation: Mechanical Engineer
Favorite food: Lasagna
Favorite TV show: Seinfeld
Favorite vacation: Greece
Favorite season: Summer
Favorite household chore: Planting/tending vegetable garden
Hobbies: Working on cars, lifting weights, traveling, watching/going to sports games
Fun facts: Tony was in marching band in high school. Years ago, Tony was in a rock band with his brother. Tony can speak Greek.

More About Us



Tony
by Joann

Tony is one of the most honest, intelligent and hard-working people that I know. I didn't know this before marrying him, but he can fix ANYTHING! Tony compliments me very well, he does great with the details to my "big picture" approach! He is

the ultimate modern man. Tony has the ability to change the brakes on my car, then the next night he is cooking dinner and cleaning up the kitchen. I believe that parents are the first and best role model for a child, and that sets the foundation for the child to be a happy, healthy, successful, and self-confident adult. Tony encompasses all the qualities of a great role model.

Joann
by Tony

Joann is the kindest person that I know, and probably the smartest. She is very selfless and hard working. If anyone is in need Joann is there to help. Joann is fun-loving, and is very much an optimist. I love that she is so open to try new things, and she gets me to leave my comfort zone. I have learned a lot about the world having been with Joann, and because of her I have experienced so many things I might not have otherwise. Joann is a great cook, and is always searching for new things to make. In Joann, I found my travel partner! She is that, and so much more. When we are at parties, she is always extremely sociable, and loves to joke with everyone. It amazes me that I found someone that can be fun and silly, yet so very loving and nurturing. Her sense of humor, kindness, and caring demeanor will create an ideal environment for a child to grow and thrive.



Our Home

We live in a Western suburb of large city, about 30 minutes from downtown. Tony built the house brand new a couple years before we got married. Our house is a 3-bedroom ranch, with 3 full bathrooms and a great finished basement. There are a large number of young families and children in the neighborhood. We always go through a lot of candy at Halloween trick or treat! Our street is quiet, and we have a private tree-lined backyard. We enjoy relaxing on our patio with a bonfire and our kitties. We are also within biking distance to a great Metropark system. The city is building a new school for most students in the system, and our suburb is rapidly growing. It's a great place to live, and we are very close to most of Tony's family which makes it easy for us all to help each other when needed. The neighborhood is very friendly and welcoming—we really love it!



Friends & Family

Joann is one of four children, with two sisters and a brother. She is second oldest. With a large extended family, get togethers happen often and everyone is very close. Joann's father passed away some time ago, but her mom still enjoys working and meeting us for lake weekends. Joann's best memories as a child are spending time with her family at her parent's lake house. She would swim, fish, and ski from sunrise to sunset!

Tony has one younger brother, and his parents live just minutes away from us. We also visit Tony's grandfather regularly as he enjoys the company and showing us how to expertly grow vegetables and fruit. Almost all of Tony's aunts, uncles, and cousins live nearby so family gatherings are a regular affair. Tony's mom was born in Greece, so he has a strong connection to his Greek heritage with traditions like dancing, food, and holidays.

Summer holidays are still spent at the lake house with everyone, watching fireworks over the lake after a day of sun on the water. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter are spent with family, keeping with the traditions we were raised observing. From pumpkin chiffon pie for Thanksgiving, to the Greek traditions at Easter. We were both blessed to have been raised by very supportive and encouraging families. Neither one of us would be where we are today without the love and support of our families. Our parents were in attendance at every recital, basketball game, and school function that we had. They were OUR role models, and our example of how we would want to raise our own child.



Joann's Mom & brother



Joann's Dad, who passed away in 2003



Joann's Sisters



The whole family get together for Father's day cookout!



Tony's Parents greek dancing!



Tony staying connected to his Greek roots with traditional dancing



Joann with her sister in Vancouver



Joann's Mother



Tony & his Dad at the World Series

More Friends & Family



Finger Lakes Waterfall



Hitting the slopes!



We love our friends!



Tavelling with friends



Joann's sister & her husband



Tony's Grandfather & Joann



Tony with his brother & Dad



Joann talked her Mom into tubing!



Joann loves to kayak



Tony loves his cars!



The Lake House



Boating at the lake

Hello!

We thank you for taking the time to learn a little bit more about us. We have always looked forward to raising a family together, and sharing in those adventures together. We have been so blessed in our life: we have found love in each other, have great careers, and are surrounded by loving and supportive family and friends.

Our relationship has grown stronger each year through both highlights and challenges. Through it all we have had lot of fun and have been able to take everything in stride. We have had plenty of time to settle in as a couple so that we understand each other and how we would raise children. We want you to know that we intend to teach them right from wrong, and how to treat others with respect and empathy. It is important to us to ensure our child learns the value of hard work and sacrifice, so that nothing is taken for granted.

We admit that we cannot possibly ever know all the struggles and feelings that you may have about the decisions facing you, but please know that we have enormous respect for your courage and sacrifice.

With love and understanding,

Tony & Joann



What Adoption Means to Us

Adoption is something that is very important to us. We have always wanted to share in the joy of raising a child together, but we are unable to have our own. We want to adopt a child because we have so much we want to share with a child, and we believe it will be extremely rewarding to watch a child grow and thrive. We have the desire to provide unconditional love and support, helping him or her through it all, good and bad. Nothing will be more challenging and fun as teaching a child the Christian values we were raised with, so that they become a wonderful adult. Adoption is a way for us to begin an amazing journey, filled with love and laughter.