Jessica & Joe

Hello!

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us! We are Jess and Joe, and we hope that this will give you a glimpse into who we are and that you will see how much love our family has to offer. We can't begin to understand how difficult this decision has been for you. We only hope you believe us when we say that any child entrusted to us will be loved with everything we have. We can't wait for the opportunity to be parents, and to spend every day loving and cherishing this little miracle.

We have been together for the last four years and married for two, but our story actually starts 19 years ago. When we were in the eighth grade Jess was sent to Joe's middle school after her's was closed. We quickly became best friends, and would sit together on the bus every day. Joe will tell you that he had a crush on Jess from the beginning, but she was oblivious. Finally during our junior year of high school he mustered up the courage to ask her out. He learned how to play her favorite song (November Rain) on his guitar, and even got his friends to talk to her about how great of a guy he was. It was so sweet! Sweet enough that she still has the mixed CD he made for her. Unfortunately for Joe, Jess was afraid something would happen that would ruin their friendship and she couldn't imagine losing him. Even with all that we stayed close throughout high school and college.

Fast forward 15 years from our first meeting and we found ourselves both single and hanging out every weekend. Every weekend turned into a couple of times during the week too, and when Joe needed a date for a wedding he asked Jess. It was her turn to have the crush on him, and this time she wasn't going to say no. During the reception Joe pulled Jess aside and told her he wanted to be more than just friends. She was still scared to risk their friendship, but something in the way he looked at her made her brave. It was the best decision of her life!

Once we officially started dating everything else moved quickly. Within the first year we moved in together and got engaged. Our families were overjoyed, especially when we decided we wanted to start our own family right away! We dreamed of a house full of kids to go along with our two chocolate labs, and family trips to the beach and Disney World. We did try for a couple years to have a biological child, but eventually we both started feeling like the reason we were struggling was because there was a different path we were supposed to follow. For us family has always been those we are closest to, whether it's biological family or the friends we've incorporated along the way. Our decision to adopt has been made out of the purest love and desire to grow our family, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome your child into our home!

Jess & Joe

About Us

We have a rock solid foundation of honesty, respect, and a whole lot of laughter! It might be because we've known each other for so long, but we are each other's biggest supporters and biggest fans. Jess is a nurse and works in the PACU department. She has been with the same hospital for 11 years and still loves being a nurse every bit as much as the day she graduated. She is primarily German, Irish, and Cherokee, and while not registered with a tribe, is very proud of her heritage. Joe works for a car manufacturer in their production planning department. He has been there for nine years and is steadily rising through the ranks. Jess likes to say that he'll be running the plant someday soon. He is primarily German and English. Our house is typically the gathering place for any get-togethers, and we love having our nieces and nephews over on the weekends. Some of our favorite things are having big cookouts in the summer, taking our dogs for walks, spending lazy Sunday afternoons reading together on the couch, going to concerts and football games, and are somehow still surprising each other with different movies the other person hasn't seen. We also love taking road trips. We've been to many different places together including Chicago (Jess's favorite) and New Orleans (Joe's favorite), and can't wait to pass on that same love of adventure to a child!

About Jess

Written by Joe

If I could have described my perfect partner when I was younger, Jess is it. Smart, funny, kind, caring, gets along great with my family, and strong. She's my best friend, and the only person I could see spending my life with. Her caring nature is apparent, not only by her career, but why she decided on that life path. She genuinely cares about people, and their well-being, so nursing was a perfect fit. In addition to all of these great qualities, she makes me a better person. Before we started dating, my number one focus was work. I thought that if I made enough money then I could fix any problem. She made me look at life differently. She made me take days off, go to new places, and experience new things. She gave me balance.

Jess is also the unofficial photographer in the family. Every get-together she always has a camera in her hand snapping pictures, and I know that nothing would make her happier than to take a family vacation to Disney World. Even a trip to the zoo would be perfect to her. Our nieces and nephews love hanging out with their Aunt Jess! Earlier this year we had a family cookout, and about a half hour in I noticed that Jess had disappeared. After looking around the house, I found her in the basement having a Nerf war with two of our nephews! That's just who she is, and I can't wait to see her be the sweet, fun, adventurous mom I know she was meant to be.

About Joe

Written by Jess

Joe is the sweetest, funniest man I know, and I can honestly say that he is my best friend. He easily brings out the best in everyone he's around, and when he meets new people they quickly become friends. Joe is the kind of person who makes sure that everyone's needs are taken care of before his own, and family always comes first with him. Watching him with our nieces and nephews over the years has made me confident that he will be a great dad. His first concern is always how they are, whether it's because one started a new school or they're just being unusually quiet that day. Inevitably they always end up laughing and wrestling around on the floor because you just can't have a bad day around him. No matter what the situation he can always make things better. He loves watching football and soccer, and I can picture him coaching our future son or daughter's team. He is also a talented guitar player and drummer. Music has always been a big part of his life and he would love to pass that on.

Our Friends & Family

Bair and Pebbles are our two dogs, and they are the definition of fur-babies. They are four years old and can frequently be found lounging on the couch taking naps or following Jess around the house. We get them Halloween costumes to wear when we pass out candy to trick-or-treaters, and because they have grown up around our nieces and nephews are wonderful with kids. Bair especially is best friends with our youngest nephew. Any time he is over the two of them are inseparable. Family and friends mean everything to us. Jess's mom died when she was 18 and it was the care that the nursing staff showed her that inspired Jess to become a nurse. Her father has since remarried and she is close to her stepmom and stepbrother. Joe has one older sister and we have seven nieces and nephews through her. Our combined family is very close and everyone is so excited that we have decided to adopt, Joe's mom especially. She was adopted as a baby, and can't wait to shower a new little one with love.

Every year we host a big college football party for our friends where they bring their kids and dogs. We watch the game and eat a huge thanksgiving style meal that Jess makes while the kids and dogs run around the backyard together. We call it our "friendsgiving". The last few years we've also taken over holiday hosting duties from Joe's sister. We always have big family parties for the 4th of July, Easter, and Christmas. Since Christmas is Jess's favorite holiday she tends to go a little overboard with the decorations, but our nieces and nephews love it. Every Christmas Eve we have the whole family over for Christmas dinner, and then we exchange gifts and watch Christmas Vacation. It's definitely the most wonderful time of the year!

Watching Football with Friends and Pups

Typical Holiday celebration with our extended family

Jess & her parents at Joe's Surprise Party

Some of Joe's friends & family at his Surprise Party

Jess with pals at her Surprise Party

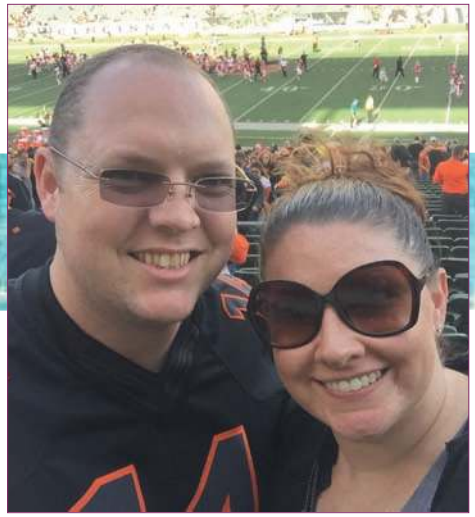
Our Home

We live in a one story ranch house with a finished basement and a large fenced in yard. The finished basement is currently being used as a combination media room and music room, but would be perfect for a little one's play room. Over the last three years we have remodeled our house from top to bottom with the help of Joe's dad. It has definitely been a labor of love! Our last planned project is to put in a swing set. Until that happens, there is a huge play ground behind the neighborhood elementary school. It's so close we can actually see it from our front porch. Our neighborhood is very tight-knit. We have a community facebook page that is updated daily with different events, information from the community block watch program, and stories of residents helping neighbors in need with house and yard work. We also live just a few miles from our local pool and would love to spend summers there teaching a little one how to swim.

Local pool

Playground at our elementary school

Our Favorites



	Jess	Joe
Favorite color:	Purple	Blue
Favorite Concert:	Linkin Park & Breaking Benjamin	Nonpoint & Taproot
Favorite Movie:	Serendipity	White Men Can't Jump
Favorite TV Show:	Game of Thrones	24
Favorite Book:	The Harry Potter series	All Quiet on the Western Front
Favorite Restaurant:	Red Lobster	Longhorn Steakhouse
Favorite Superhero:	Batman	Iron Man