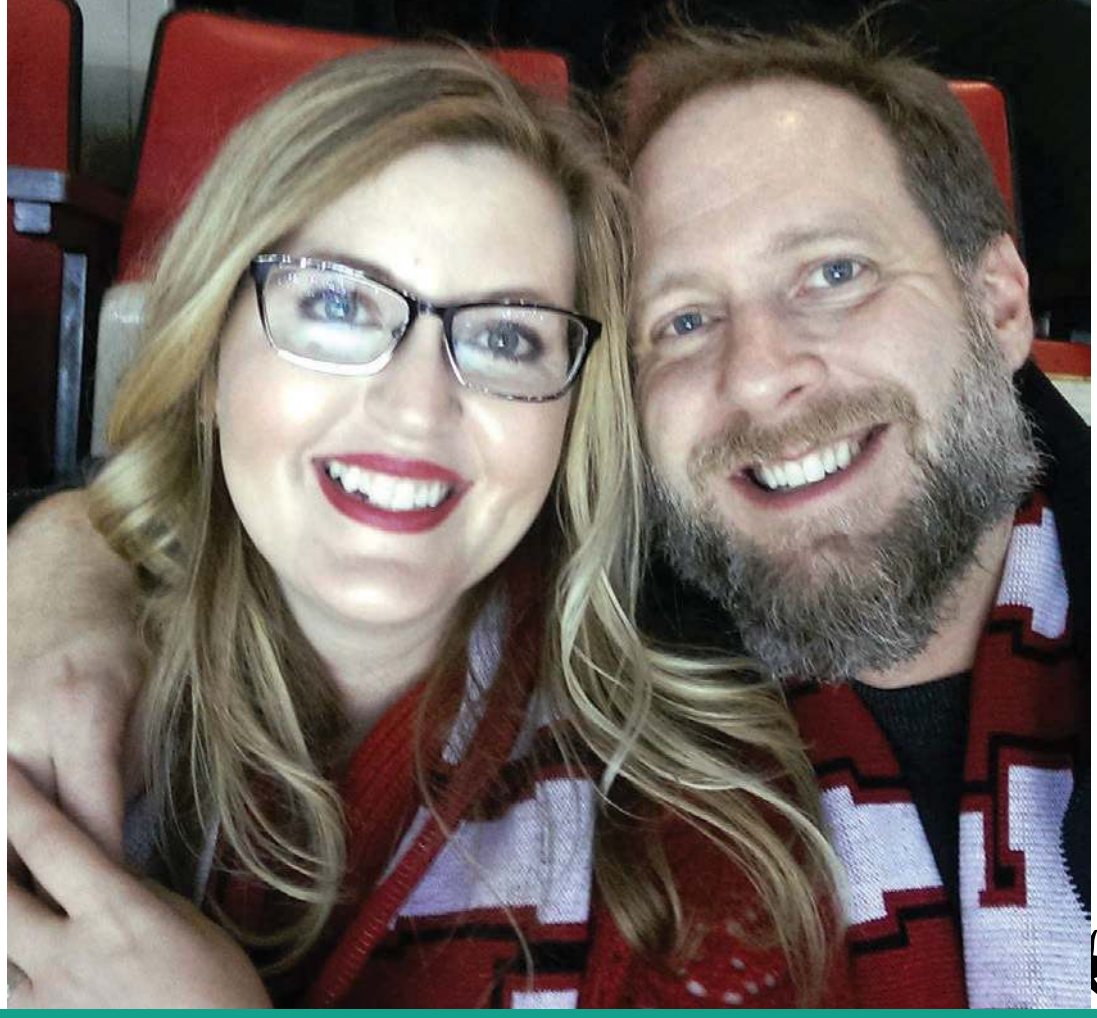

Dean & Amanda

At a charity fundraiser

At a waterfall in Iceland

Hanging out on the beach in Jamaica mon!

Zip-lining in Costa Rica

Hello

We know you have an incredibly important decision to make. Your head is spinning, and so much is weighing on your heart and mind. We can't pretend to know what you are going through, but we are grateful that you are considering us as the adoptive parents of your child.

We met nearly 10 years ago. When we did, we knew immediately that we had found our other half. We were married in 2009, and have been experiencing love, laughter, and shenanigans ever since.

After years of struggling with infertility, we knew right away that adoption was the right path for us. Sometimes we think back to those early days and know that this is exactly the journey we were meant to be on.

Amanda owns her own nonprofit consulting business and Dean is an eye care professional. We both have very flexible work schedules that allow us to spend time with friends and family. Amanda works from home and plans to stay home with the baby when he/she arrives.

While we don't have any children, we do have three fur-babies who we love to spoil. They are excited for their new brother or sister to provide them with Cheerios and Goldfish crackers one day!

Everyone is thrilled that we are growing our family through adoption. We are grateful to have such amazing family and friends who can provide us advice and support along the way, from providing tips for late night diaper changes to the best way to get crayon off of our couch.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We want you to know that regardless of the path you choose to take, we will be in your corner, cheering you on! We wish you the best of luck in your decision.

Dean and Amanda

Taking a super fun sandcastle class

Amanda feeding our silly nephew at a birthday party

Dean sharing laughs with our niece and nephew

About Us

Riding dune buggies!

Whale watching!

We are a goofy couple and love to make each other laugh. You'll find us talking for our pets in funny voices, quoting our favorite movies, or just being silly. Our first date was at Chuck E. Cheese, and we can't wait to go back with a kiddo some day! Even though we've been together for nearly a decade, we still love spending time together. Not only do we love each other, but we like each other too. We're very affectionate and sometimes even surprise each other with breakfast in bed. We have our struggles, but we're determined to stick together through thick and thin. We've dedicated our lives to each other and are committed to a marriage that not only works, but thrives. They say opposites attract, and that's true for us! If one of us is bad at someting, the other is good at it – one drives and the other navigates, one cooks, the other cleans. We are partners and even say, "Go Team!" when we have overcome a problem (like finding a parking spot). We love spending time with those we care about. Our favorite memories are from time spent with friends or family. Our fridge is filled with artwork from the kids we love. We look forward to displaying our own child's work one day. We're excited to share traditions with our child too – Christmas morning in jammies, hot chocolate when it snows, decorating for Halloween, and making "tents" out of blankets in the living room. It's these little memories that make life special, and we like to squeeze every moment we can out of it! Giving back and helping others is especially important to us too. We're involved with local charities and donate our time and money when we can. We believe it makes our community a better place to live in, and provides a wonderful future for our child. We also like to be adventurous. We LOVE to travel and experience new and exciting things. We save to go on one big trip every year for our anniversary. We don't take for granted that we are able to see the world and can't wait to see it through our child's eyes. We also like to learn about other cultures right here in our own backyard. Whether it's enjoying sushi at a Japanese restaurant, attending our local Greek or African American festivals, or visiting local museums, there is always something fun and interesting waiting to be discovered. We will draw upon these experiences when parenting our child, (regardless of race or ethnicity), and embrace their cultural differences, whatever they may be.

About Dean from Amanda

Checking out a glacier in Iceland

I absolutely adore Dean's sense of humor. He makes me laugh all the time! On the day we met, it felt like time stood still. I knew on that day, we were meant to be together forever. Kids are attracted to him like magnets. I think it's because of his childlike heart and wonder. Also because he's tons of fun! He appreciates the little things, is patient and kind, and always takes the time to listen to kids tell their stories. He's charming, laidback, and gentle, but has no problem laying down the law when he needs to. I have no doubt he will be an incredible father. I see that in him when I watch him with our nieces and nephews, and snuggle with our pets. He'll do anything for them. He once walked three miles in flip-flops on a hot summer day to play Pokemon Go with my niece. He just can't say no to their sweet faces. Family is the most important thing to him, and our child will be lucky to call him Dad.

About Amanda from Dean

Relaxing at dinner in Jamaica

Amanda and I are best friends. She is the most caring, compassionate and selfless person I know. She loves spending time with family and wants nothing more than to become a mom herself. She is often voted "Favorite Aunt" by our nieces and nephews, and loves time spent playing with them and entertaining them. She does tend to hog the babies though and spoil the older kids rotten! Holidays are a blast as we often have all the kids and adults together at once. It's fun chaos! I watched amazed as she started her own business from scratch as a consultant to area charities. She has so much drive, dedication, and attention to detail. She became very successful in a short time. I know she is just as dedicated to being a loving and caring mother. It has always been her biggest dream and first priority. She has prepared thoroughly, and I admire her greatly for it. In the meantime, she is a fantastic mom to our three wonderful and friendly pets, who wouldn't know what to do without her.

Our Family and Friends

We have a wonderfully supportive community in our friends and family. Amanda's family is nearby and Dean's family lives in another state. Combined, we have 2 sisters, 3 brothers, 5 nieces, and 6 nephews – ages 6 months to 14. We love it when the kids stay the weekend with us. We go to the movies, out-to-eat (usually McDonald's), shopping, to museums, and play video games in our "man cave". Holidays are spent with family - home-cooked Thanksgiving dinners, floors scattered with wrapping paper on Christmas morning, kids scrambling for Easter eggs, and families huddled together watching fireworks. Sunday dinner is a tradition for Amanda's family, where you'll find kids running around, giggling, and playing board games. We see Dean's family a few times a year - more if we can! They live in the country, so we get to explore the forest, have bonfires, and hang out with their chickens. Our friends are almost like family to us too. Amanda has sorority sisters whom she is still friends with after all these years, many with kids of their own who are excited for a new playmate. Many of Dean's friends he has known since second grade! He goes on a motorcycle or camping trip with them every year. We have other friends who live nearby and look forward to outings to the zoo, baseball games, and the park. We're very grateful to be surrounded by so many who will be there for us as we figure out parenthood. We also can't talk about our family without mentioning our adorable fur babies! We have three (all rescues) – Jenny and Howie are our dogs and Reese is our cat. They all have their own little personalities, which is why we love them so much. Jenny is almost person-like, and can break us out into laughter with just one look. Howie, who we call "The George Clooney of dogs", is super friendly. Nearly everyone tells us how sweet he is, and (if given the chance), would gladly take him home with them. Reese is sassy, loves to "talk", and has tried out nearly every baby item we own - from the crib, to the car seat. You can find them all snoozing on the couch or keeping guard against squirrels and plastic bags. They are all very excited to have a new sibling to snuggle with some day!

Dean and his buddies on their annual motorcycle trip

Amanda with her friend on a mystery train ride

Amanda and her friend out for lunch

Our sweet pups Jenny and Howie

Our sassy kitty Reese

All the pets pile on Mom!

Dean and dogs with our nephew

Dean with our brother-in-law and nieces at an amusement park

Dean and his brother in matching shirts

Dean and our nephew playing laser tag

Amanda and our nephew at the arcade

Amanda's mom and newphew

Dean with his parents and niece celebrating the 4th

Our Home and Community

We live in a two-story home in a cozy neighborhood full of lots and lots of kids. The front lawns are scattered with bicycles and kids playing catch, and sidewalks are full of chalk drawings and dogs being walked. All summer long, you'll find kids selling lemonade, Girl Scout Cookies, and Boy Scout popcorn. Our neighbor set up a free book exchange across the street, where kids (and grown-ups) can take a book for free, and donate ones they aren't reading anymore. This past summer, we watched a neighbor boy ride his bike for the first time on our street! It was such a sweet memory, and we can't wait to do it with our own child. Our neighbors are friendly, most with small children, and we all look out for one another. The elementary school and park are both within walking distance from our home. We're also minutes from two major hospitals, our doctor's office, and urgent care. We're close to all sorts of fun activities like science and art museums, the zoo, huge parks, baseball and hockey games, the YMCA, and so much more. There's no shortage of things to do, and we feel it's the perfect mix of big city and small town.

Our home decorated for Christmas

The awesome playground and park in our neighborhood

Baseball just miles away!

Amanda getting kisses from a friend's dog

Sporting our Miss Piggy and Kermit the Frog costumes

Dean and our nephew playing ball

Amanda and our nephew being silly

Dean helping a friend work on his motorcycle

Things we love

We both love	Dean loves	Amanda loves
Zombies	Seinfeld	The Walking Dead
Being silly	Jazz & Classic Rock	90s Hip Hop
Traveling	Where the Wild Things Are	Little Critter
Trying new things	Lasagna	Chocolate croissants
Animals	Riding his motorcycle	Thrift store shopping

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We wish you the best of luck, whatever path you choose.