STEVEN & DORA

Thank you for taking the time to get to know a little bit about us. Hopefully, what you read here shows that we are genuinely elated at having the opportunity to grow our family through adoption a second time! We believe simply that God has a plan for us, and in His perfect timing He has brought us here today. We have been praying for almost a year now over our next step in parenting, and can't wait to meet our adoptive child.

Our family started as two kids from the same suburb that ended up finding each other after we got back from college. We truly felt instantly connected, even on our first date. It is amazing how fast time goes by, and that this year marks twelve years of marriage! Every year brings new trials, new blessings, and even more reasons to rejoice. We are excited and look forward to growing our family to share in the joy. Some of the things that we are excited about are watching our adoptive daughter helping the baby and seeing them interact. We can't wait to see them play, hold hands, read books, ride rides, do all the things kids love to do together. That being said, we know that it takes a village to raise a child, because we've been a part of that village for all of our friend's children. We are truly blessed to have that huge "village" to support us through this adoption, as they were there for us through our first adoption. Both of our families are only a few exits down the highway, and we have a fabulous group of neighbors and friends within walking distance. We have a huge support system and they are excited to see how God chooses to grow our family almost as much as us.

Like all parents we want our kids to have everything we had and much more! Our parents gave us the tools to successfully make it through high school and college, and we want to walk our children through their education with the same level of support we were shown. Steven works for one of the largest corporations in the world as a Sales Support Manager in their financial division for 10 years this spring, after having a 5-year career with a large retailer in management. Dora has been in sales for the over 10 years after being in retail management as well for 3 years. We both have slightly flexible work schedules, which will enable us to be there for our adoptive children for doctor appointments, sports and other school events.

We can't wait to have a new addition to take with us to the park, the zoo, church, outside to hang out with the neighborhood kids, and to play with cousins and friends! Although we can only promise to be the best parents we can be; we both know that God has the perfect love to be reflected to our children through our commitment to Him. Once again thank you so much for considering us as adoptive parents! We have been praying for this blessing for months, and are so excited to finally see God at work through the process of adoption again.

Sincerely,

STEVEN & DORA

ABOUT US

We went to the same high school and were actually in marching band together. Steven played trumpet and Dora was in color guard; but we didn't date until after college. After returning home from college, Dora was coaching color guard at our old high school and Steven visited to watch a practice one day and to say hi to one of the other coaches. That is when he noticed Dora again after all those years. Dora swore she would never date a "band nerd", but needless to say she ended up marrying one!!! This year we have been together for 14 years and have been married since 2004. We are absolutely a very easygoing couple who enjoys reading or watching movies at home. We also like to shop together, ride bikes, walk in the park, canoe/tube, hang out with friends, and we love going to church activities. After years of marriage we've gone through all your traditional vows: for better and for worse, for richer or poorer, and in sickness and in health. Fortunately, through all the adversity and the good times, our love for each other has done nothing but grown deeper. We believe that it is only through Jesus Christ and His loving grace that we have made it through all that life has thrown at us. After all these years, we feel that our faith has given us the strong foundation for building, and now growing, our family through adoption again. We think it will be such a blessing that as our children grow up together they will share the bond of adoption, and truly understand the love of having both a birth mother and adoptive family. Most importantly we are so excited to grow our fun loving family, we have been talking non-stop about a future with another little person to share everything we do and everything we have, for the rest of our lives!

TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO

HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE

ANNUAL SUNFLOWER PHOTO

Hello! I'M STEVEN

Written by Dora

I never thought, as a teenager, that I would have already been introduced to the man I would marry. If I had been told that my future husband was one of those boys who were cracking jokes on a marching band field, I would not have believed it. Luckily, we both had a little bit of time to grow-up before we started a relationship that would turn into a lifetime of love and commitment. The man I met after college was no longer the boy from band. I love his impressions, his sense of humor, and when he does his goofy dances around the house to music from commercials. He shows me a side of him no one else sees; he makes me feel special. On my bad days he makes me smile, and likes to celebrate the small things in our relationship. One way he balances the relationship is that he gives me the perspective not to sweat the small things. Our strength as a couple is that we have a partnership. We share everything, and like doing everyday tasks together, like putting away laundry and grocery shopping as a couple. We are not the perfect couple, but when we hit a wall, we work together to crumble it one brick at a time...and when it's a steel wall we get out the blow torches!! Steven is an amazing father to our adoptive daughter. He has somehow made me love him more in seeing his love of our little girl. We truly are a partnership, and share everything from the morning routine to school functions and gymnastics classes. We love sharing every bit of our time with our daughter, and I am excited to grow our family together again.

Hello! I'M DORA

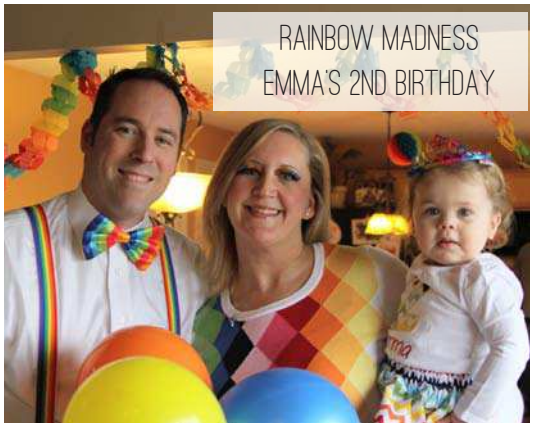
Written by Steven

Dora is my best friend. 14 years ago I knew Dora was the one; which is why I invited my parents out to brunch with her after just a couple dates. She has a way of calming me and her smile reminds me that I am married to a genuine, God loving person. Dora was the one who guided me to Jesus Christ and I am forever grateful for her direction and understanding. Dora has been someone I can lean on, someone I can trust, and even after fourteen years, someone who still laughs at my jokes. I am thankful that I have been able to spend the last 14 years with her and we have had unforgettable moments together. We have been able to share wonderful memories at music events, sporting events, and time with family and friends. I am excited to raise a family with someone so loving and so full of life! We have experienced quite a bit in our 12 years of marriage and I am ready for so much more. We are just getting started and we are excited for even more of what life has to offer!

WE ARE A *Family*

We are so blessed to have the support of both of our families in our marriage and our decision to grow our family through adoption a second time. We both have our parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, one 102 year-old grandma, a large extended family, friends, and a church family to give us advice, love, and support. You can't talk about family without talking about our pets! We have two dogs and a cat that are super cute and who love following around our daughter waiting to see what yummy treats she is going to drop! Our family and friends keep us busy with kid's birthday parties, weddings, dinner parties, events, and we are never short of someone to go with us out to eat or to summer festivals! Of course, no family is perfect, we fight, we make-up, we cry, we laugh, we grieve, we celebrate, but we are all excited to add another member to the mixture of beliefs and cultures that have become our family.

GRANDMA, AUNT EILEEN, DORA, AUNT CHARLOTTE & EMMA!"



RAINBOW MADNESS
EMMA'S 2ND BIRTHDAY

TRIP TO SOUTH CAROLINA

BIKE RIDE!

STEVE'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

DORA'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

EMMA PHOTO BOMBS

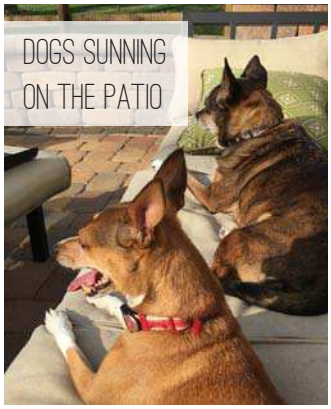
STEVE'S EXTENDED FAMILY

OUR *Home*

Our home is pretty much the typical suburban home; we were not too exotic in our home choice. We found a community close to where we grew up that we have made our own that is not too far away from our family. When we were searching for a home, we wanted a house that fit our personality and had room for a growing family in the future. It has all the things it should: good schools, small town feel, but close to everything you need including two major cities to get all the culture and sporting events a big city has to offer. What we didn't know when we moved in was that we would have such fabulous neighbors. Our neighborhood has TONS of kids, and we seem to be on our second wave of babies right now so our new addition will have friends their own age, including a new cousin who just born this past August. All the families do a parade for the fourth of July where they meet at the neighborhood pool and the kids decorate their bikes and ride around and end it with a barbeque. It is a very family oriented group of people who live in our neighborhood and community and we all strive to shape this area into the perfect place to raise a family.

COMMUNITY LAKE BEHIND OUR BACKYARD

OUR CUTE KITTY



DOGS SUNNING ON THE PATIO

1996 MET IN HIGH SCHOOL — 2002 BEGAN DATING — 2004 MARRIED — 2013 ADOPTED EMMA — 2016 ADOPTING AGAIN

FAVORITES!

	Steven	*Dora*
Movie:	"Back to the Future"	"Home Alone"
Homemade Meal:	Meatloaf	Steak and Veggies
Take-out food:	Chinese	Pizza
Restaurant food:	Steak	Mexican
Fast Food:	Chipotle	Chipotle
Vacation:	National Parks	Beach
Season:	Spring	Summer
Hobby:	Photography	Crafting/Decorating
Childhood Memory:	Driving on vacation in the family conversion van	Hunting for shells on the beach on vacation
Favorite Quote:	*That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.* - Neil Armstrong	*Fear not for the Lord is with you.* - Isasiah 41:10

WACKY EMMA

Married: August 21, 2004
Religion Child Will Be Raised: Christian, Non-Denominational/Bible Based