Shawn & Kate

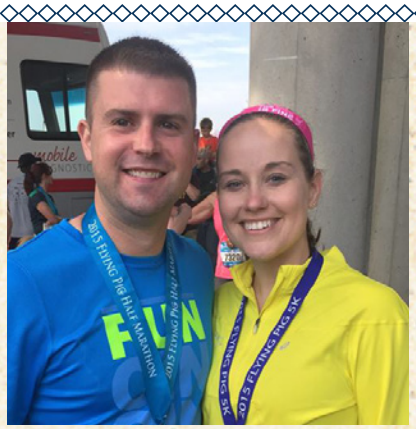
About Us

Our story begins in September 2007. We met on the popular dating site Match.com. After several email communications back and forth, we had our first date in November and the rest is history. We married less than a year later in November 2008. We have two fur babies. Moxie is a red tri Australian Shepherd who is ten years old, and Riley is a seven year old Italian Greyhound. We built our home and have been there for about four years. It is a spacious four bedroom, two and a half bath, open floor plan with plenty of space to entertain, have had several family get togethers there and have plenty of room for children to run around and play in the fenced in back yard, which overlooks the lake. We have always wanted children, but after failed attempts at getting pregnant and weighing our options, and since Kate was adopted, we decided that maybe it was God's plan to adopt as well.

Shawn is a corporate pilot by trade. His financial stability allows Kate to work a part time job and therefore be able to spend more time at home when needed.

About Kate

Once Kate caught my eye and I met her in person, I realized that for the first time, my search may be over. She's got drive, determination, brains, a way of caring for people, and of course beauty. Kate always amazes me with her different creative projects and her knack of finding just the perfect gift for someone. She too, can always make me laugh-though sometimes it's because of some predicament she's gotten herself into. She's been through a lot in a quick 37 years, but she's come through as a better and more resilient person. Life never seems to be dull when we're together. It's great to have such a partner to go through life with. I cannot wait to raise a child with her by my side.



About Shawn

For me, I knew by the end of the first date that Shawn was the one. His big, brown eyes give me goosebumps every time he looks at me. Shawn loves learning new things and is not afraid to get his hands dirty. I feel learning is something that never gets old. We are both type A personalities and our attention to detail is immaculate, but in different ways. Shawn is very logical and I am very creative, which is why it works and works well. Shawn has a huge heart which he has no problem sharing with others. He is always the first person to volunteer to help others in need, whether it be a close friend or building a house for Habitat for Humanity. He is my support and my rock for everything that has happened and whatever may come. His smile and laugh are contagious, and his ability to make me laugh and smile no matter what kind of mood I'm in is one of the qualities that simply amaze me. To think two people can be that connected to one another is nothing short of a blessing for both of us. His professional mindset and striving for success has helped him rocket through the ranks of his profession. I love the fact that we have the same passions and interests that we can share together.

Our Home

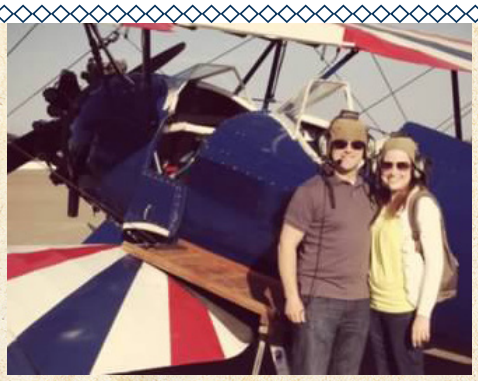
We built our home in 2013 for the purpose of entertaining friends and family while building our family. It consists of a 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath in a diverse neighborhood on the east side of the city. It is a quiet, but close neighborhood where everyone looks out for one another. We love celebrating life's little achievements there.

Traditions

Traditions run deep in our family. For the last four generations, Kate's family has celebrated Christmas on Christmas Eve with a family dinner and gift exchange. Kate's side of the family also enjoys celebrating their Irish heritage by having a family reunion each year on St. Patrick's Day, complete with Irish step dancers and authentic Irish food. We have also begun our own traditions such as attending the annual Sunflower Festival and beginning our holiday season by attend a Christmas play called "Awaited". Other traditions include attending The Opening Day Parade and Game. We also enjoy attending 4th of July parades to honor our military and on Halloween, we grill out over five hundred hot dogs and hand those out instead of candy. We also have made it a point to attend Kate's goddaughters' feis as often as possible. A feis is an Irish step dancing competition. They are all over the states, however when local, we usually spend the day cheering her on.

Kate's family reunion occurs each year on St. Patrick's Day

Kate's goddaughters' Irish step dancing competition.



Favorite Things

Aviation and travel are our passion. We love having the privilege to travel and experience different parts of the states to see air shows, as well as the beauty of what has been created on this Earth. We find it to be not only adventurous, but peaceful and rejuvenating as well. We find it to be a great time to reconnect and focus on our marriage and each other. We also love to attend different sports events...baseball, basketball, football and horse racing just to name a few. We also play volleyball together on a weekly basis because we feel teamwork is essential to a marriage. What better way to show that to one another than playing a sport together. We also travel to Kate's parents' lake house. It is our home away from home and only about an hour away. It's perfect for a quick weekend getaway to fish, go for a boat or canoe ride and enjoy nature all around you. When there, we can be a little more adventurous by going out on the boat or laying back and enjoying the nature around us with a good book in hand.

Top: Aviation and travel are our passion
Bottom: Kate's parents' lake house

Our Family & Friends

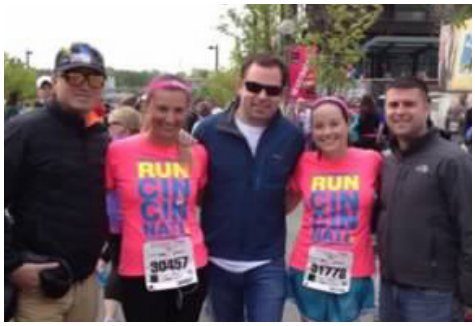
Shawn's family is relatively small. His mother passed away from breast cancer when he was sixteen and his father remarried. Shawn's parents have been married for fifteen years. Kate's family, however, is much larger. Kate's parents have been married for forty - five years, and has a sister, who is five years younger, but she also has nine cousins whom we are very close to, ranging in age from ten to eighteen.

We have a HUGE support system of friends who have known us since the beginning our relationship. They have helped us through good times and bad. They are ecstatic that we have chosen to become parents.

With Kate's family at a fundraiser

Shawn's parents, Bill and Jill

Our friends after the Heart Mini Marathon



With firends after the Flying Pig Marathon

Team KTO at the Monte Carlo

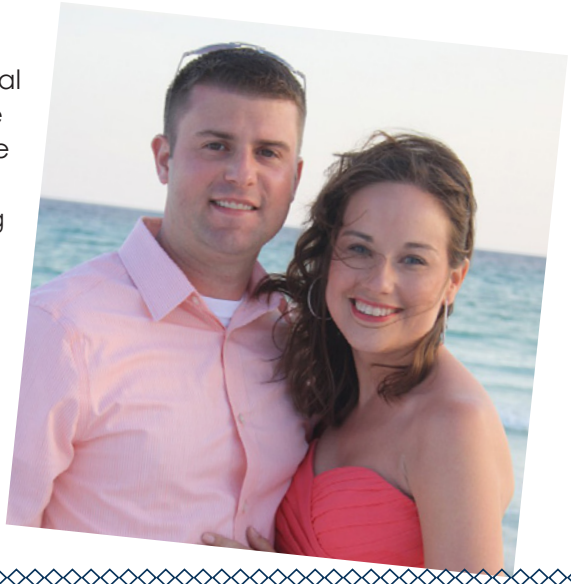
Dear Birthparent

We want to thank you for taking the time to look at our profile and learn more about us. We know that we will never understand the difficult decisions that you have made and have yet to make, but want you to know that we pray for you every morning and evening. We hope to learn more about you in the future, but until then know that we are forever grateful for you and your decision.

We attend and are heavily dedicated to our Christian faith and values. Kate volunteers with KidsClub, which is a nursery through high school aged service where they can learn about God at their learning level. We also volunteer with programs such as Angel Tree, which supplies toys for Christmas to children who have incarcerated parents and Thanksgiving Food Drive, where we purchase an entire Thanksgiving Dinner for a family of six. Our biggest effort, goes to GO Local. This is a city wide day of service, where we go out and help out wherever we are needed. We have painted, constructed, beautified and prayed over many people through the years. We truly feel at home in this faith community and continue to grow individually and as a couple in our love for God. Besides our faith, we feel we have been extremely lucky to be able to grown up in a city that has such a diverse culture. From museums to cultural festivals, we feel we have a plethora of experiences to participate in right in our own back yard.

Why Adoption?

Wanting to grow our family through adoption has a lot to do with how we view our faith. As children of God, we were adopted into God's large and diverse family. As God's family is diverse, we are excited about the potential of our family being diverse. Because of God's unconditional love for us, we want to give that same unconditional love to a child through adoption. We believe God has called us to adopt and we are so excited about this plan for our lives. We have always wanted children, but after failed attempts at getting pregnant and weighing our options, and since Kate was adopted, we decided that maybe it was God's plan to adopt as well.



We want to thank you for taking some time to get to know our family a little better and considering us as an adoptive family for your child. We are excited about the possibility of becoming parents and hope you are encouraged by our love of family and children.

Shawn and Kate