Bob & Carolyn

About Us

We met through friends in 2006 and have been married since 2012. Our similar values are the first thing that bonds us – we love our families and our friends and time spent with them is always important to us; we love the region that we grew up in (including the sports teams and all the Midwest traditions around celebrating them, the parks and lakes offering tons of activities through every season); we also love travel and value education highly, seeking new experiences to keep our minds open to everything out there in the world beyond the home that we know.

Carolyn is adventurous and out-going. She loves anything outdoors and active (especially trail-running and hiking), and is always enthusiastic to try something new. Carolyn grew up in the town that we live in and still enjoys going to the local pool and library and parks – she looks forward to someday taking our kids to all the children's programs our community has to offer. Carolyn works in a hospital as a physical therapist. It's rewarding for her to help people regain mobility and be able to return home after injury or illness, but she welcomes the opportunity to channel that caregiving nature into being a mom. She plans to stay home with a new baby, then eventually return to work with a very flexible part-time schedule.

Bob is easy-going and thoughtful, a steady calming presence. He's very handy and takes an interest in improvement projects for the house, and is the one with the green thumb for our garden. We both love animals, but pets always seem to especially love Bob! Bob works as an operations analyst for a commercial lighting company. Solving problems that arise and figuring out how to make things run smoothly and efficiently suits Bob perfectly, as he's very practical and level-headed. He has always been a hard worker, and was the first one in his family to go to college, even continuing on to earn his MBA. Bob enjoys his work, but also appreciates a balance that lets him spend his evenings and weekends free with family and friends.

Together, we enjoy going to sports events and concerts (plays and comedy shows too). Bob always comes out to cheer Carolyn on when she does a big race. Spending time at Carolyn's family's lake house nearby is fun for cookouts, boating, swimming, bonfires, and game nights. We like weekend trips to the farmer's markets in our area, and cooking has become one of our favorite ways to spend time together. We look forward to making family dinners a special time with our kids someday too.

About Carolyn (by Bob)

Carolyn is an amazing wife, my perfect complementary other half. She's smart and kind and funny, and especially she brings excitement to our lives, always looking for the next big adventure. Since meeting Carolyn, we've traveled all over together and she nudges me outside my usual comfort zone and gets me to try new things – like snorkeling with sea turtles, hiking the Grand Canyon, kayaking with manatees, riding 4-wheelers in the desert and more! She has so much enthusiasm and energy for things, it's contagious to be around. Carolyn is also a very warm, nurturing, and loving person. I see it in the ways she always takes care of me, is devoted to family and friends, and in her profession where she's so invested in helping her patients get better. This gives me a glimpse into what an amazing mom I know she will be, and I can't wait to start a family with her!

About Bob (by Carolyn)

Bob is my rock. He offers endless calm, patience, stability, and love. He is smart, hard-working, and quietly hilarious (usually whoever is lucky enough to sit next to him at a family gathering will be the only one to get to hear all his jokes)! What really stands out to me about Bob though, is how caring he can be. And it often shows in the little things – making a plate of food and starting a warm shower for me after a long hard run, leaving a card and flowers for me to wake up to when I've been sick. He's driven across several states just to help a friend lay down new flooring in a weekend. That's the kind of caring, generous, loyal person Bob is. I also love to see Bob with his nephews and our friends' children. He's a big strong guy but can be so gentle with holding the little ones, and full of energy for backyard football or teaching his high-school wrestling moves to the older ones. I know he will be a supportive, loving, protective, involved, fun dad!

Our Family

Bob grew up among a large close extended family. He has one older sister and 2 nephews (ages 10 and 17). His parents host family gatherings often, where Bob's dad is master of the grill (in any weather!) and there is always happy chaos with lots of young cousins getting to play together. We love to imagine our child growing up with so many family playmates. Everyone in Bob's family has been very supportive of us, and is excited to welcome a new baby!

We are close with Carolyn's mom and stepdad who live nearby, and they are looking forward to becoming first-time grandparents. Both are English teachers, and plan to help us with childcare sometimes. Carolyn and her stepdad are also great hiking partners, and she got much of her love of the outdoors from him. Carolyn has an older sister living about an hour away, and the rest of her family (including a younger brother and younger sister) is spread out across the country. We keep in touch and visit as often as we can – it gives us good reason to travel more!

We feel lucky to have strong and lasting friendships in our lives too. Carolyn has had the same 3 best friends since elementary school; their husbands and Bob have become very close as well. We've made great friends through college and work, and over the years we've noticed how hanging out has evolved from nights out, to now more backyard cookouts and gatherings at home with kids running around playing together. We really love being aunt and uncle to all of our friends' children, sharing in birthdays and milestone celebrations. And we have a wonderful "Friendsgiving" tradition that grows in size every year!

With Carolyn's parents and brother at a winter lights garden

Bob and his cousin at the lake house

Nephews and cousins on Bob's side, a fun bunch of energy at family gatherings

Lifelong friends, together for a baby shower celebration

Best friends for 11 years

Summer cookout with great friends from work

Carolyn loving time in the mountains on a hiking trip with friends

A cherished moment with our friend's son

Carolyn with a friend from school, excited after finishing her first marathon!

Bob with family, friends, and neighbors at 4th of July tug-of-war (They won!)

Our Home

We live in a great neighborhood that is kid-friendly, safe, diverse, and close to family. Our 2-story house has 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms upstairs, and is all open space on the main level which is perfect for family time and get-togethers with friends. We're on a cul-de-sac street where kids are always out playing together. There's a hike & bike path that weaves around our neighborhood and through a park just a few blocks away. Carolyn's parents are practically neighbors too, living just a mile away. We have one cat, named Kitty – she's about 14 years old and very sweet.

At A Glance

	Bob	Carolyn
Hobbies…	• Grilling out • Watching and reading about sports (especially football and mixed martial arts) • Cooking with Carolyn • Car and home improvement projects	• Running (and doing local races) • Hiking/biking/anything outdoors and active • Cooking with Bob • Reading (and going to Book Club)
Hidden Talents…	• Bob did 3 sports throughout high school: football, wrestling, and track & field • He threw shotput and discus in college	• Carolyn grew up playing the piano and clarinet • She was on swim team and played softball
Favorite Vacation Together…	• St. Thomas, Virgin Islands	• The Grand Canyon
Dream Vacation Someday…	• Having never been outside the US & Canada, would love to go to Europe (especially Ireland)	• Beach house with our kids and extended families
On my radio…	• Classic rock, Sports	• Books on tape, Popular/Top Hits, Country, Anything and Everything
Bringing out the best in each other…	• Bob had a dog growing up, and didn't know he was also a cat-person until he met Carolyn and Kitty.	• Carolyn was always a tomboy and loved sports, but never understood football until she got Bob to explain it to her on one of their early dates.

Dear Birthparent,

Thank you so much for considering us! We're thinking of you, with admiration and respect for your strength, and wanting to offer you our support during this time. And thank you for taking the time to look through our profile – We hope to show you what our lives are like, share our excitement to grow our family, and hope that you will feel a connection with us in some way. We look forward to the opportunity to learn more about you too.

We've been together for 12 years and from the beginning have always talked about wanting to be parents. We're lucky to be surrounded by family and friends who support us on this journey, all excited to help us welcome a new addition with lots of love. We feel so happy and grateful for the chance to expand our family through adoption!

Why Adoption?

We found out that we're unable to have biological children. That was hard at first, but in the end it gave us a chance to learn how to support each other and communicate better, and our relationship is even stronger now because of the challenges we've faced together.

When we think of adoption, we're so excited to imagine providing a life of love, stability, opportunity, and adventure for a child, and fulfill our own dreams for building our family. We're open-hearted to people of all backgrounds, and we want to help our child develop all parts of their identity.

With love and best wishes,

Bob & Carolyn