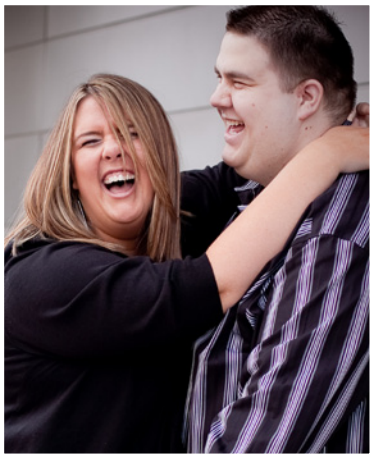
Jon & Samantha

About Us

Our journey began in April 2009 when we met online. We both knew we were ready to settle down – we just needed to find the person we couldn't live without. We clicked instantly. Jon proposed that Christmas. Samantha picked out a wedding date she would never be able to forget: 9/10/11. Our wedding was magical and full of friends and family. We wouldn't have changed a single thing.

We are so excited to become parents. At 35 and 31 years old, we are both blessed with good jobs and have each been with our respective employers for over 10 years. Jon is a designer at an engineering firm and Samantha is the Director of Operations for an investment company. Both of our jobs offer a lot of flexibility and the ability to put our family first. Between the two of us we will be able to attend every program, class party and sporting event.



Favorites

Jon's	**Samantha's**
Color: Red	Color: Pink
TV Show: Lost	TV Show: Project Runway
Movie: Man of Steel	Movie: The Greatest Showman
Food: Barbeque	Food: Lasagna
Holiday: Christmas	Holiday: Christmas
Cartoon: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Cartoon: Winnie the Pooh
Hobby: Video Games	Hobby: Reading

Home Sweet Home

We just finished building and moving into our dream home! Our new home has 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and an open floorplan perfect for family gatherings. It sits on a large lot with a fenced in backyard that will be perfect for a large swing set when the time comes. The house is in the number one school district in the state. Our community has several family activities such as an award winning zoo as well as a great children's museum.

Meet Cuddles

Samantha has technically had Cuddles longer than she has had Jon. Lucky for Jon, Cuddles took to him immediately. Samantha likes to say that Cuddles has Jon wrapped around her little paw. Cuddles is a 9 year old Pomchi (Pomeranian Chihuahua). She loves to wear clothes and is the epitome of a lap dog. She is great with kids and can't wait to become a big sister and have a 3rd family member to protect.

More About Us

What I love About Jon

Written by Samantha

While I was originally drawn to Jon's height of 6'6" – I quickly discovered he had much more to offer than just being tall! After leaving our first date I immediately called my sister and told her I thought I had found the one.

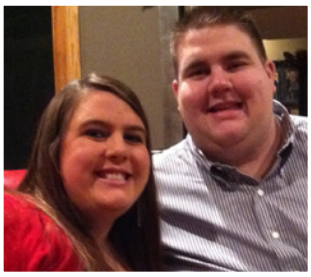
Every new step in my relationship with Jon has always felt meant to be. There were never any of those awkward adjustment phases. He is the only person I can spend every day with and not get tired of him. If there was ever a question about him being the right man for me, he quickly made it clear one day during our engagement. Jon had just traded in his jeep in for a new truck that he was very proud of. I went to run to the grocery store and took his truck since it was out in the driveway already…and promptly ran into our neighbor's mailbox. I came back in tears, so afraid he would upset with me. He simply kissed my tears away, told me he was only glad I was okay, and wrote our neighbors a nice note taking the blame for ruining their mailbox and offering to buy them a new one. He never once made me feel guilty for the several thousand dollar mistake (not that there was not some slight teasing after the fact!) Marrying Jon was guaranteeing myself I would get to spend every day of the rest of my life with my best friend. Jon is kind, patient and as clever as they come. No matter what kind of day I have, he always can make me smile. Kids tend to be naturally drawn to Jon and his playful personality. I have zero doubts that Jon will make an amazing father.

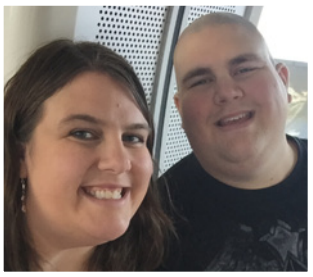
What I love About Samantha

Written by Jon

When I first met Samantha I knew right away she was special. She seemed to just get me. As time went by, the idea of finding someone "who just gets me" turned into "I found her and I want to spend the rest of my life with her."

Our first Christmas together I thought I had the upper hand. After all, I had a ring in my pocket. What could possibly trump a ring? It turns she had been paying close attention to me. I had mentioned to her how I always wanted a recliner one time while sitting in one at her parents' house while we watched a football game months before. Living in apartments my adult life I never had one. That day as we were getting ready to open our presents to each other, I thought I had a great plan. We'd open the presents, then I would say I have one more left as a surprise and pop the question. But before we even started opening gifts for each other she excitedly said "I have a surprise for you!" Naturally, I was a bit worried. Is she going to beat me to this? What kind of surprise is this? She leads me down to the basement to show me that had picked out and brought home a recliner just for me to have at her house. Needless to say I was quite excited. I knew that in a few minutes I was going to ask Samantha to marry me and while nervous, I knew she was the one. She just gets me. Samantha is funny, loving, intelligent and driven. Through the years I have seen her becoming more and more ready for motherhood. Once I saw her with our nephews and how caring and gentle she was, I knew it was time. I am confident Samantha is ready for this journey and I cannot wait for us to embark on it together.





Our Family & Friends

Vacation on the water

Samantha's Family

Jon's Family

Airboat Ride

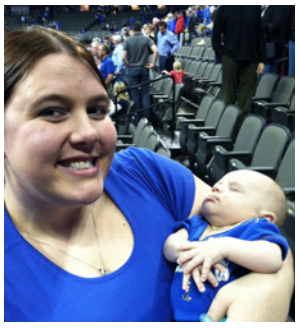
Our family is thrilled with our decision to add to our family through adoption and has been extremely supportive.

Jon's parents have been married 43 years and live right here in town. They host weekly Sunday dinners for any of their kids that can make it. Jon also has both an older brother and an older sister who also live here in town with their spouses. His brother also has 2 sons. One is 5 and will always hold the spot of our first nephew. The other is 2 and already aiming to be just like his brother. We spend time with our nephews every chance we get and can't wait for our future child to become best friends with his or her cousins.

Samantha's parents have been married 37 years and live here in town as well. This will be their first grandchild and they cannot wait. Samantha's mom is not entirely convinced she shouldn't build a nursery at her house too since she can't wait to spend as much time with the baby as possible. Samantha is the middle child, having both an older sister who lives here in town and a younger brother who lives in a nearby city. Samantha is lucky enough to have both sets of her grandparents still living and can't wait to see them hold their next great grandchild.

Ironically, Jon and Samantha both have adopted siblings. Both Jon's brother and sister were adopted. Jon is the baby of his family and was a bit of a surprise after the two adoptions. Samantha's younger brother is adopted. When Samantha's brother was little, if you would ask him why he was special, he would proudly answer "because I am adopted!" This was an open topic in both of our households growing up. We obviously don't see our siblings as anything other than our siblings, but we can't imagine our lives without them in it. We want to show this same unconditional love to our future child and try to give them the kind of childhood we each had.

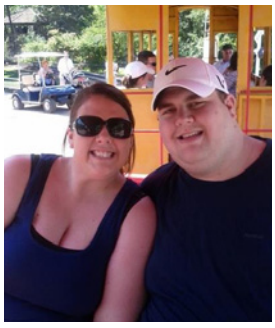
Playtime with nephew



Nephew's first Basketball Game

Halloween Fun with our Nephew

Our Nephew's first Birthday Party



Train at the Zoo

Hello

We will not pretend to know the difficultly of the decision you are facing right now. We will tell you that we greatly respect you for looking at your options and support you in whatever decision you decide is right for you and your child.

We spent a lot of time talking and thinking about what we want to say to you. The problem is that there is so much to say and so little space to say it in. What we concluded was that the best thing we can do, is try to share with you some of our core values and the kind of parents we want to be in hopes we may be describing the kind of home you would like your child to be raised in.

We are all about family. With both sets of our parents a 10 minute drive away, we see them on a weekly basis. Samantha's mom actually works part time in Samantha's office, so she sees her daily and is incredibly close with her. We also spend a lot of time with our siblings, not to mention our nephews. Jon grew up with several of his aunts, uncles and cousins close by, and wants our child to have that same opportunity of play dates and sleep overs with family. Samantha moved around a lot growing up and did not have that, so she strives to give that to her child.

This brings us to our next point – our child will have a huge support system. While we hope to be the center of our child's universe in his or her younger years, we know as they get older and start to desire some independence, mom and dad become a little less cool. In our opinion, the best thing a child can have at this stage is other responsible adults they are comfortable reaching out to. Between grandparents, aunts and uncles, there will be no shortage of love for our child.

Another thing that is important for us to provide our child is opportunity. We have both spent the last 10 years working our way up in our careers, which has fortunately made us very financially stable. We want our child to be able to try any sport, musical instrument, or dance class they desire and be in a position to let them do that. We think it is important to give every child the opportunity to find something they love then be there to support them and watch them do it!

Lastly, we want to offer our child openness and honesty. Our child will know they are adopted as soon as they are old enough to understand what that means. They will be told how much you loved them, and that you did everything you could to give them the best life possible.

It is so hard to get across who we are in a few pages and pictures, however we hope you see something in us that makes you interested in getting to know us further. Thank you for taking the time to read about us and we hope to be speaking to you soon!

Sincerely,

Jon & Samantha

Why Adoption?

After a few years of enjoying married life, we decided we were ready to add to our family. We spent some time trying to have a baby but unfortunately were not successful in getting pregnant. We knew at this point we could either look into our options medically, or we could look at adoption. With us both having adopted siblings, we decided to go the adoption route and find a baby we could love. We feel so excited to begin this next chapter in our lives.