Jonathan & Shana

About Us

We met in 2012 while working at the State Fair. We bonded over our love of cows and quickly grew close. Three years later, we got married and started our amazing journey together. Since then we have started a farm, sold our first house, changed jobs a couple times, got lots of animals, had a baby and moved to the old farmhouse. Whew! Strong faith, hard work, staying active, a lot of love, and a pretty strong sense of humor are the most important ingredients in our lives. Without these key ingredients, life would be dry as a cookie without milk. Not only are we dedicated to and passionate about our work, but we also love our friends, our family, and our community. We make spending time with friends a priority. We try to eat dinner with both sets of parents at least a few times a month and see them each at least once a week. Without our personal relationships and a strong support system we wouldn't be where we are today. As a couple, we support each other in everything we do. We have a "gratefulness board" on our fridge that we update each day and it is often filled with things that one did for the other. We also have a lot of hobbies and interests. Shana loves cooking and baking. Jonathan likes tinkering on the farm. We both enjoy riding bikes, making music, spending time with friends, visiting historical sites, playing with our pets, exploring the woods, and just hanging out. Jonathan is the quiet one, so Shana finds great joy in making him laugh. Don't let his quiet, thoughtful facade fool you though! Jonathan can deal it right back! Life is hard, so we try not to take it too seriously!

FUN FACTS & FAVS

Jonathan

- **Occupation:** Veterinarian
- **Education:** Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
- **Color:** Blue
- **Movie:** Mrs. Doubtfire
- **TV Show:** Curse of Oak Island
- **Dessert:** Rhubarb Pie
- **Vacation:** Any National Park
- **Holiday:** Easter
- **Book:** Angels and Demons
- **Sport:** Baseball
- **Random Fact:** Jonathan is an Eagle Scout
- **Hobbies:** Working on the farm and running

Shana

- **Occupation:** Farmer/Social Media Manager
- **Education:** Masters Degree
- **Color:** Teal
- **Movie:** Smokey and the Bandit
- **TV Show:** Big Bang Theory
- **Dessert:** Rhubarb Pie
- **Vacation:** Aruba
- **Holiday:** Christmas
- **Book:** Harry Potter Series
- **Sport:** College Football
- **Random Fact:** Competitively Figure Skated for nine years
- **Hobbies:** Running, cooking, baking, being outside

Our Home

Right now, we are living in a home that was originally a one room schoolhouse. In fact, Jonathan's grandparents attended school there! It was converted to a residence in the 1950's and we recently renovated it to be more modern on the inside. It is a cozy 2 bedroom home with one bathroom. It is located on our 100-acre farm which has been in our family for four generations. Our children will be the fifth generation to live on the farm. In the near future we plan to build our dream home on the farm. We raise pastured poultry, cattle, and dairy goats here. We even have a couple mini cows!

About Jonathan

(written by shana)

Jonathan is one of the kindest men I have ever met. He completely changed my perspective on what a relationship should be. He is a loving partner, an outstanding father, and a hard worker. Jonathan's level-headedness keeps me grounded. I remember shortly after he got his first job after vet school, he got a pretty serious emergency call at around 2 AM. While I was still struggling to make sense of the fact that the phone had rung, he was out in the hallway giving directions to the owners and laying out a treatment plan as he quickly dressed to rush out the door to the office. His ability to calmly handle a difficult situation has always impressed me. Jonathan loves to work hard and to see the product of his labor. Sometimes he will get frustrated if he doesn't have enough to do on his day off so I send him off to the woods for a while to chop some wood or something. I think that is his Eagle Scout training showing through. There's never been a time when he doesn't have some sort of project up his sleeve. As a history buff and fan of big machinery, Jonathan loves watching cheesy shows like "The curse of Oak Island" and "Gold Rush". He laughs at of my cheesy sense of humor and has a deep passion for "dad jokes". Watching him parent has been one of my greatest joys and I cannot wait to watch as he starts the parenting journey again!

About Shana

(written by jonathan)

When it comes to describing Shana, I know that I am going to fall short of accurately illustrating all her wonderful qualities. At first meeting, I would say that her outgoing "go-get-'em" personality is what's most apparent. Shana is never satisfied with the status quo. She is always looking for ways to better herself and strives to help others recognize these opportunities in themselves and achieve them. This fact is exemplified through her involvement in various volunteer positions ranging from our County Farm Bureau to an ongoing mission project organized through our church. In addition to being outgoing, Shana is a hard worker. She works from home and manages our family farm, both requiring hard work (physical and intellectual). Speaking of intellectual, Shana is one of the smartest people I know (and I'm not saying that only because I know she is going to read this). In the middle of working a full-time job and managing our farm, Shana earned a Master's Degree. Somehow, Shana always seems to find the time to come up with these amazing recipes, even while balancing her other various commitments. However, if you ask how she made it, don't be surprised if she cannot give you specifics as she usually replies, "I just sort of winged it". You really cannot box Shana in and again, I could never sufficiently do justice to what a caring, smart, hardworking and strong person Shana is. She is without a doubt my perfect match as she always challenging me to push myself further.

Our family

Family is extremely important to us, and we make sure that our time reflects that. In our home it is Shana, Jonathan, and our one-year old son, Kenton. Jonathan doesn't have any siblings, so we spend a lot of time with his parents who live nearby. Shana has an older brother and sister. Both of her siblings are married and her sister has a 1-year old son. Although Shana's siblings live a couple hours away, we make every effort to visit them frequently and they do the same. Shana's parents also live nearby, so we spend a lot of time with them. Shana has 3 of her grandparents still living, and we do our best to spend time with them as much as we can. Our families are all very close knit and we visit with aunts, uncles, and cousins several times a year.

Shana, Jonathan, and Kenton with their calf named Candy Corn

Kenton

Shana and Jonathan with Shana's parents, siblings, and grandparents

Shana teaching a church group about farming

Shana and her sister, Katie

Jonathan goofing around at a good friend's wedding

Jonathan's parents with Kenton

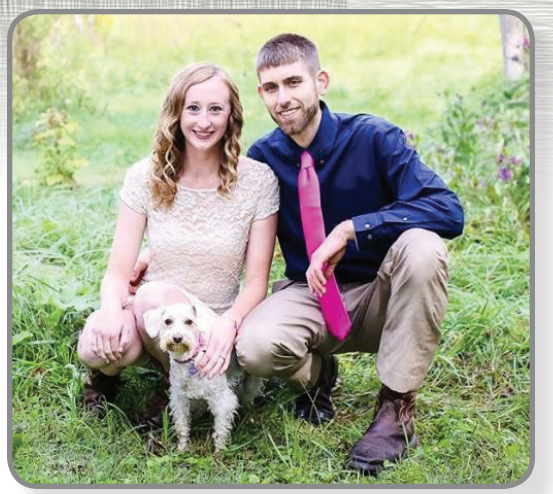
Both of our parents with us at Jonathan's vet school graduation

Shana with family and friends at her brothers wedding

Shana breaking it down with her uncle

Us with Shana's parents, siblings, spouses and nephew

Shana baking cookies with her best friend, Ashley



Dear Birth Parent,

As fellow parents, we are astounded by the love and dedication you have for your child in choosing adoption and we are humbled that you would take time to learn about us.

We firmly believe that both our birth child and our adopted child will be equally loved by our family. The way that a child joins our family does not make him or her any less a part of our family. We feel so fortunate to have the opportunity add to our family through adoption!

Our excitement to add to our family grows each day and we already know that we love our future child beyond measure.

♥ Jonathan & Shana

Why Adoption?

Shana has wanted to adopt for as long as she can remember. Neither of her grandmothers were raised by their birth parents, though both connected with them, and she was able to see the lifelong impact of adoption for both sides. When Jonathan learned about Shana's desire to adopt, he quickly got excited as well. After Shana experienced challenges having our son, our decision to adopt was even more firmly cemented. We believe that God made everyone as he intended and that looks are not what make a person family. Because of this, we would be ecstatic to add a child of any race to our family. We welcome the challenge of helping a child learn about their heritage.