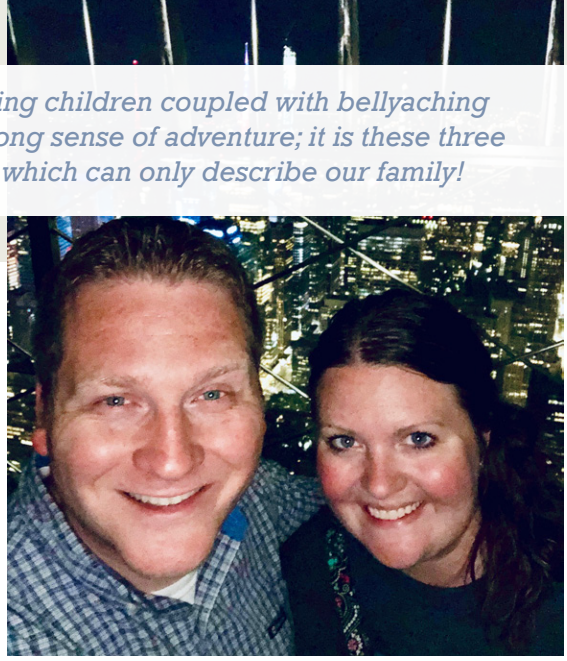
nathan + tera

about us

A passion for loving children coupled with bellyaching laughter and a strong sense of adventure; it is these three characteristics which can only describe our family!



Our story is unique as we did not meet in the traditional way. Being dared by family members, we both joined a dating website in 2006 where we were matched immediately given our shared values and desires. After meeting for the first time, both of us knew that we had found our future spouse. After graduating from college, we married in 2010 and began our lives together as one. In 2016, we welcomed our daughter into our family where she soon stole the hearts of not only her mother and father, but all members of our families. Little did we know that Tera would later receive news that she would be unable to have a second child.

Nathan is an elementary school principal and Tera is a high school English teacher who is also an associate professor at a local college. We believe that our shared time in education has prepared our hearts in parenting in a way that allows us to understand the uniqueness of each child while being able to recognize and promote his or her strengths as he or she grows. A fun fact about each of our own educational backgrounds is that prior to being a principal, Nathan was a French teacher who studied in France and Tera has led her English classes to Europe one summer!

One of our shared passions is traveling; from the beaches of California to the islands of Greece, we are blessed to have traveled the world with one another. Our daughter also has this sense of adventure and has become quite the traveling expert herself. Our favorite and most-visited vacation spot is Disney World where we find ourselves going for various weekends during the school year and for full weeks during school holidays. We have instilled our love for all things Disney in our daughter who can proudly recite all the Disney princesses (and even where to meet them!) by heart as well as courageously enjoy a ride of any size.

A fun fact about each of us is that Nathan speaks French having lived/studied in France and Tera has traveled to over 20 countries.

Fun Facts + favorites

	Nathan	Tera
Animal:	Dog	Giraffe
Food:	Pizza from anywhere!	Chicken Fettuccine
Ice Cream:	Phish Food	Mint Chocolate Chip
Hobby:	Traveling	Traveling
Book:	Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire	Frankenstein
Movie:	Saving Mr. Banks	You've Got Mail
Family Activity:	Playing games	Visiting the zoo
Holiday:	Halloween	Christmas
Vacation Destination:	Disney World	Disney World
Sport:	Tennis	Tennis
Sport Team:	Cleveland Indians/Browns	The Ohio State Buckeyes

meet Tera

Written by Nathan

Tera is the definition of the virtuous woman. Her ability to lead is evident in every aspect of her life, but none is greater than that of motherhood. I always believed that one of her greatest assets was her ability to teach children, but upon becoming a mother, it is her ability to love her own child which outshines all others. I will never forget one evening where I caught our daughter looking at her with the utmost love in her eyes; Tera did not see it, but I know that only a woman such as Tera could cause a child to look at her in such a powerful way. It is true that she has prepared a beautiful home, but her wisdom, diligence, and kindness make her a woman that is loved and respected by all that know her. While I fell in love with a woman of integrity, it is her daily commitment to our family which makes loving her one of the greatest joys of my life.

meet Nathan

Written by Tera

I knew when I married Nathan that he would be successful in life. He is unbelievably smart, determined, and passionate, so it was no surprise that he excelled in teaching and then as a principal at a young 27 years of age. Seeing him work in education, I knew that he would be great as a dad, but nothing could quite prepare me for watching him in that role. Our daughter adores him and is his little mini-me and tag along. She never leaves his side, always wanting to be near him and cannot wait until he comes home from work, so she can play tag, chase, and hide-and-go-seek with her daddy. He is the epitome of what it means to be the Godly leader and provider of our family. He works hard to make sure that myself as well as our daughter are taken care of with not only everything we need, but anything we could want as well. His humor and love of life make every day an exciting and memorable adventure, and our family would not be complete without him.

our Daughter

In 2016, we were blessed with the birth of our daughter. Unknown at the time of the miracle of her conception, she has quickly become the light of our lives. She has a sense of humor like her father, the kindness of her mother, and sense of adventure from both of us. She is a three-year-old expert in all things Disney and enjoys hunting down her favorite princesses at Disney World. She is excited to be enrolled in preschool this year!

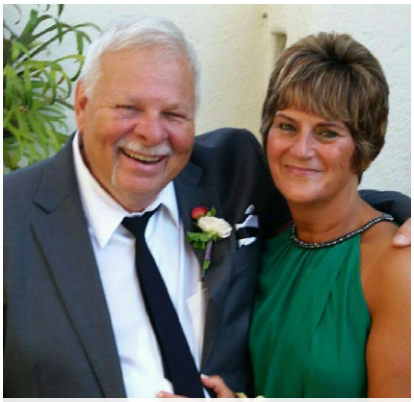
OUR home

We recently moved into our forever home in July of this year. Being close to our family is important, and to achieve this goal, we decided to design and build our dream home closer to them so that they could have a bigger role in the lives of our children. We live on 2.5 acres in the country while being 10 minutes from major shops and restaurants; for us, this location allowed for the best of both worlds for raising our family as we want our children to be afforded the opportunities that come with rural and urban settings. Our house was built in 2019 and has three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, a living room with two-story windows overlooking the countryside, and, most importantly, a dedicated room for toys, pillow forts, and costume boutiques. We also have a chocolate Labrador Retriever who is just as much a member of the family as the rest of us. She eats more than the three of us combined and gives an unlimited supply of kisses.

OUR family+friends

Both sides of our family are close and very active in our lives; we are spoiled by each of our parents who take us on yearly summer vacations to the beach, West Coast, cruises in the Caribbean, or Disney. Having close relationships with our mothers and fathers has always been a high priority for us. Nathan has a sister and brother-in-law with a nephew and niece; together, swimming in our mother's pool in the summer, we enjoy going apple picking in the fall, and comparing notes about teaching practices year-round as we are all in education. Tera has a sister who is also her best friend. Together with her brother-in-law, nephew, and niece, family game nights are common as well as pizza Fridays where there is often an argument on the best pizza in town. In July of 2019, Tera also gained a brother as her mother and father adopted a 2-year-old. The desire to adopt is common within our families!

Having fun with Nathan's family at Disneyland in California



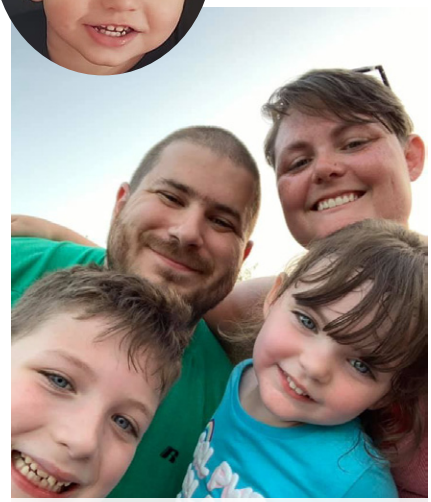
Nathan's mom & step-dad

Tera's mom and dad

Making memories with Tera's family at Disney World in Florida

Nathan's sister, brother-in-law, nephew, and niece

Tera's adopted brother



Tera's sister, brother-in-law, nephew, and niece

Fun times with siblings of both families who double as our best friends!

Many grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins round out our large, loud, and loving families.

Dear birthmother,

Unconditional love, everlasting compassion, and a strong sense of humor are what we have to offer; since we are no longer able to have another child naturally, adoption is the answer to how we can share these qualities with a second child. Our relationship began with a $19.99 special when we were matched through a dating website in 2006; we both knew at our first date that we had found our forever person. Being a high school English teacher and an elementary principal, understanding children is our passion; one in which the importance of relentlessly loving a child is lived daily. We are strong in our faith and know that God has prepared a child just as He has prepared our hearts for this very moment.

Pirate or princess, we cannot wait to have a future riding partner for our trips to Disney World as well as another pair of eyes to help us find those forsaken landscape items that begin with the letters Q and X on our road trips. It is with the greatest of admiration that we hope you have found what you desire in us. Our hearts are full, and our home is ready!

Lovingly yours,

nathan+tera

why adoption?

When Tera was diagnosed with PCOS and doctors told us that she would not be able to get pregnant for a second time, it was a time of sadness, grief, and despair; however, God soon laid upon our hearts that the closing of this door was the opening of another. We found our hope, the end to our sorrow in the conviction that there would be a child in the world whom we could love fully and forever.

We both cannot imagine our lives without our sisters; both have given us a life full of love and a large dose of adventure. A sibling is often the person who is with you in every season of your life, and the benefit of this bond is simply invaluable. In our family, an adoption will guarantee this forever relationship for our daughter. We hope that they love each other as much as they are ornery with one another and can create unforgettable lifelong memories together!