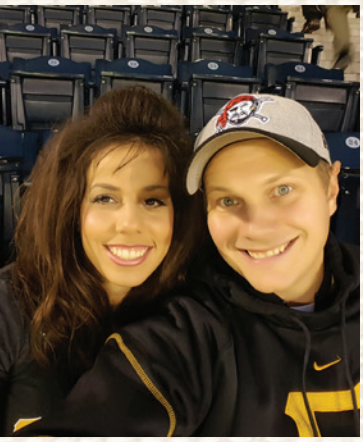
Tom & Candy

About Us

We are Tom and Candy. We met as seniors in college and have now been married for over twelve years. We have a son who was adopted as an infant in 2017 and are excited for the opportunity to expand our family! Candy teaches kindergarten in the town we live in while Tom teaches high school math several towns away. We love our jobs as educators but also love the time we get to spend with our families over the course of holiday and summer breaks. Some of our favorite things to do together include taking trips to the beach, swimming in our pool, taking our golden retriever to the park and just spending time with our huge family which currently contains ten children all under the age of twelve!

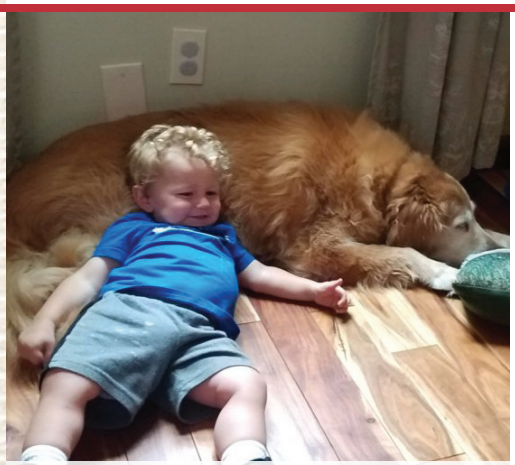


About Candy
(written by tom)

Candy is the most happy and enthusiastic person I've ever known. Her smile is infectious and her love of life is obvious. Whether she's at work or at home, she's always organizing dance-offs, coloring contests, talent shows and other activities to make sure the children she's with are having a great time. When we go out to dinner or to the store together, we always run into a current or former student of Candy's. It's wonderful to see kids I barely know run up to her, give her a hug and tell her how much they miss her. As we chat with the parents of these children, they always say how thankful they are for their child to have had Candy as their first teacher. Attempting to add children to our family was an emotional roller coaster that brought us closer together along the ride. I'm so excited and hopeful for Candy to continue to have the opportunity to share her love of life with children in our own home.

About Tom
(written by candy)

Tom is the kindest and most considerate person I know. He is constantly putting others before himself and never shies away from the opportunity to lend a helping hand. Any time we have a family get together, Tom can always be found hanging out and joking around with the kids. As we were going through infertility treatments, my father passed away after a battle with lung cancer. I know he was hurting at the time too but I'll never forget the support he gave and the efforts he'd make to try to put a smile back on my face. When talking to his students, it's funny to hear them say how Tom never gets mad and is always smiling. Although Tom remains calm and is almost always smiling, his students have never been around when he's watching a Steelers game or playing Xbox!



Our dog, Buster, with our son

Thanksgiving dinner

Rock Band in the basement

Our Family

Family is a huge part of our lives. Each of us grew up with three siblings and we continue to spend the majority of our time with our parents, siblings and their children. We have a total of ten nieces and nephews our children will regularly spend time with all of whom are 12 or younger! Our parents live close to us and are willing to watch our children while we're at school leaving lots of time to bond with grandparents and cousins throughout the school year. We typically take a vacation with each side of the family every summer and make several stops in order to see everyone on each major holiday. Our families are big, close and are as excited for us to get more little ones into the action as we are! We hope our children grow up to be close to their siblings as well and can't wait for them to experience the love our extended family has to give.

Our Son

We welcomed our son into our lives through adoption in 2017. He's changed our lives forever and we hope the three of us are lucky enough to be blessed again by the wonderful gift of adoption.

At the beach with Pop Pop

Coloring with cousins

Halloween 2018 with cousins

On a safari ride

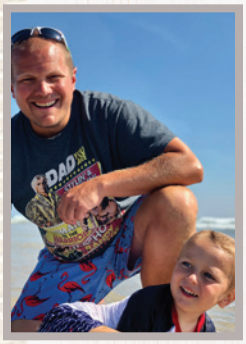
At school with Candy

Myrtle Beach with cousins

OUR HOME

Our house sits on a quiet, dead-end street in the town where Candy teaches. In the summer, we spend a lot of time playing on our playset, swimming in our pool or walking our dog, Buster, up and down the street while chatting with neighbors. There are fifteen children living on our street who can constantly be seen and heard running through yards and riding bikes around the cul de sac. Our basement is finished with a seating area for adults and several huge play spaces for the kids. In the winter, we can be found with family downstairs playing Rock Band or watching a football game while the kids pretend to cook us meals in the toy kitchen or color pictures at the art desks.

FUN FACTS



	Tom	Candy
FAVORITE ANIMAL	Penguin	Penguin
CHILDHOOD TOY	Nintendo	Doll house
CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY	Playing baseball	Swimming in her family's pool
HOBBIES	Golfing, watching sports and playing XBox	Crafting and reading
CANDY	Good and Plenty	Twizzlers
QUALITY ABOUT MY SPOUSE	Fun-loving approach to life	Consideration for others
CHILDREN'S BOOK	Where the Wild Things Are	The Giving Tree
RESTAURANT	Buffalo Wild Wings	Cracker Barrel
VACATION SPOT	Disney World	The beach
HOLIDAY	Thanksgiving	Christmas
TV SHOW	The Office	Modern Family
HOLIDAY TRADITION	Seeing family and eating all day on Thanksgiving followed by shopping and decorating for Christmas over the days that follow	Watching our nieces and nephews while "Santa" gets their presents

DEAR BIRTHMOTHER,

Thank you for taking the time to read about us. We know the decision you're making is a difficult one but choosing adoption is also one of the most courageous choices someone can make for their child. Should you choose to go with an adoption plan, rest assured that your child's life will be filled with love and joy and you'll have made the adoptive parents you choose the happiest people on earth.

In April of 2017, our lives were changed forever when we were lucky enough to be chosen to adopt our son, Tommy. We feel we still have much more love to share and would love for several children to grow up in our house developing the same bonds we share with our siblings. We want our children to develop the same love for life the two of us share. We want our children to treat people properly and look at life optimistically. We hope to help our children discover what they're passionate about and pursue it. We wish to give our children the ability to succeed academically, emotionally and socially. We also want our children to develop a strong sense of identity. We want them to know where they came from and that their mother's courageous choice was the biggest blessing we've ever had in our lives. Our children will know their mother's choice was made out of love and that we'll never be able to thank her enough for the opportunity to raise her child.

Thank you again for reading our letter and considering us as adoptive parents for your child. We wish you the best of luck throughout your pregnancy and pray for your peace as you make your decision about adoption. We can't imagine how difficult this decision must be, but be assured, a child coming into our lives would be an immense blessing and in turn we'd do everything within our power to give your child a bright future filled with family and love.

WHY ADOPTION?

After years of trying to conceive, we realized God intended for us to bring children into our home through the gift of adoption. The adoption of our son has changed our lives forever and we see signs each and every day that deciding to become adoptive parents was the path we were meant to follow. We are excited and hopeful to welcome more children into our household through the journey of adoption to share our lives and our love with. We can't thank you enough for considering us as adoptive parents.