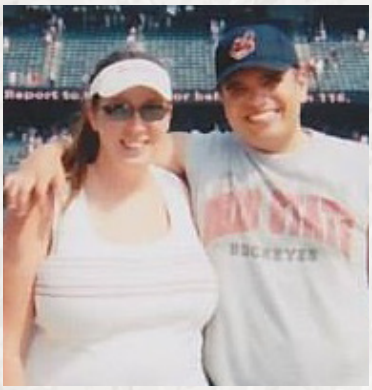
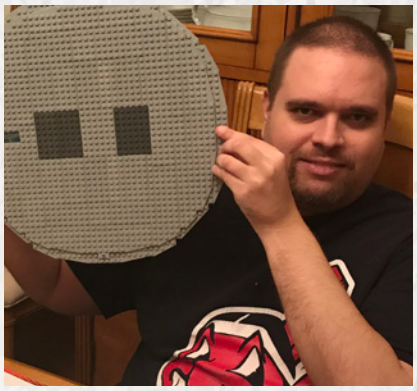
Mark *and* Katie

Hi!

We are Mark and Katie and we have been together for over 16 inseparable years. We met and were engaged at very young ages. Katie was 20 and Mark was 23 on their engagement day. We purchased our first newly constructed home immediately after and were married a year later. Our immediate connection was our common love of the ocean, space, and our strong moral values. We like to spend time with our dogs and family and are very family-oriented. In our spare time we enjoy gaming, home-improvement projects, hosting family gatherings, swimming, and spending time on the lake on our boat. Mark is a 3D CAD Designer/Account Manager with skill for mathematics and Katie holds a position as an Accounting Assistant with a gift for organization and efficiency. We are hoping to bring a child into our life to love, educate, raise with good values, and occasionally spoil from time to time.



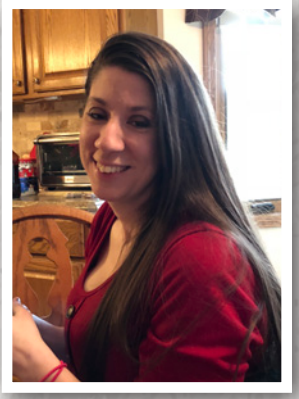


Fun Facts and favorites

	Mark:	Katie
Occupation:	Account Manager	Accounting Assistant
Season:	Spring	Fall
Holiday:	Memorial Day	Christmas
Movie:	Apollo 13	Clueless
TV Show:	South Park	Vikings (2013-2020)
Vacation Destination:	Las Vegas	Busch Gardens in Tampa, FL
Food:	Chinese Food	Stuffed Crust Pizza
Desert:	Banana Cream Pie	Mint Chocolate Chip Ice Cream
Candy:	Skittles	Sour Patch Kids
Hobbies:	Gaming, fishing and building models	Baking/decorating cakes and cooking new meals for Mark to try
Activity:	Gaming & lifting weights	Jogging in our neighborhood & baking
Tradition:	Hosting Christmas Eve	Hosting Christmas Eve

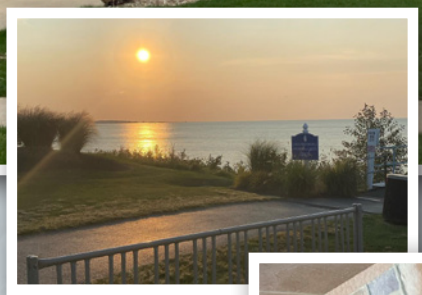
more about Mark *(by Katie)*

Mark's intelligence and interest in space is what attracted me to him when we first met. His hard work and dedication at such a young age allowed us to have a beautiful home and fulfilling life together. He's also very handy and loves doing home improvement projects around our house. He even builds our computers that we use for work and gaming. He's the conversationalist of our family and has the most infectious laugh! His reliability makes him the first person our friends and family turn to whenever they need to talk or get something off their chest. With his kind and caring heart, he is always listening to people and offering sage advice. I believe he will make the perfect father for our future, forever family.



more about Katie *(by Mark)*

I know it may sound biased for me to say this, but Katie is definitely the most genuinely kind person I've ever met. That was the first vibe I noticed from her when we met. She's always anxious and eager to do things for other people, even people she doesn't know, and is one of those people at a party who is helping others and enjoying herself last. She is also the most efficient person I've ever known, which is kind of an unusual thing to mention, but I always found it to be very intelligent. She's very good with kids. Not just attentive, but engaging. She is also a great cook and loves to bake and decorate cakes and take care of her home. I have never known someone so selfless and kind. I know that Katie will make a great Mom.



our Home

We have lived in our home for 16 years, purchasing it as a new construction model home in 2006. We were very fortunate and blessed to have this home as we were 23 and 21 year-olds at that time. It is a 3 bedroom and 2 bathroom ranch set in a continuously growing neighborhood. Our neighborhood has a park built within it and a private beach that is maintained by our association. There are children everywhere of all ages and it is a great environment for kids. Stores and schools are close and our neighborhood would be a great place a child to make lots of friends.

our Pets

We have 2 dogs, an 8 year old purebred German Shepherd named Jerry Lee and a 7 year old Lab/Mix named Chops that we adopted from APL. Jerry Lee is very laid back and loves to greet and meet new people. Chops is the more playful of the 2 and loves playing tug of war with his ropes!

our families

Katie with her 2nd cousin

Our family is large, to say the least. We do have adopted family members on Mark's side of the family. His father's cousin was adopted and Mark's cousin's wife's sister has 3 adopted children. When we told her that we were adopting she was so excited for us.

Mark & Katie with their entire family at 4th of July

Mark grew up as an only-child, but was constantly around his cousins so it never really seemed that way. Katie has a brother and several cousins.

Our family mostly has large gatherings outdoors in the spring and summer times with cookouts and throughout the year with random get-togethers and pop-ins. Each family member hosts a certain holiday for the year. We always host Christmas Eve and Mark's parents host Christmas Day. Mark's Aunts host 4th of July cookouts and rib burn-offs every year as tradition. Katie's side of the family always does Thanksgiving and organizes larger family reunions.

There is never any shortage of company and our family is always dependable. They are the type of people who would do anything for you at a moment's notice. Mark's Mom and Dad are retired and keep asking when they can open their daycare to us.

Mark & Katie with a neighbor at a cookout

Mark's mom and dad

Enjoying a Luau with friends

Cousins posing for a pic

Mark hanging out with his best friend

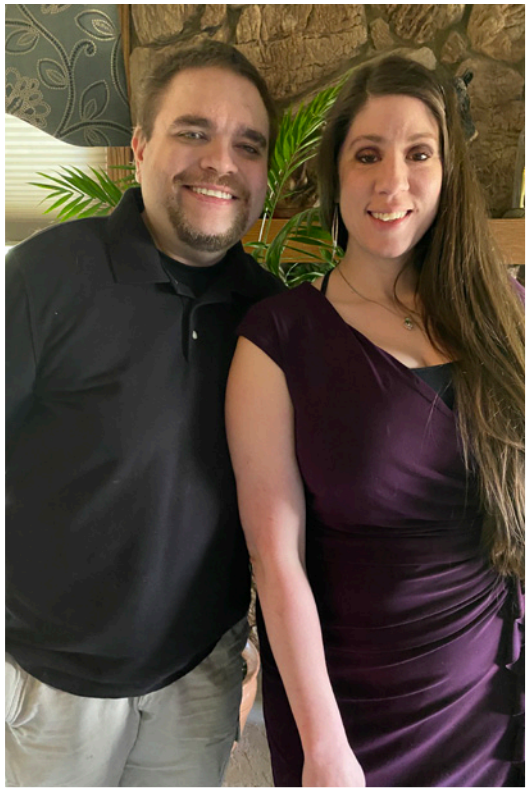
Katie with a cousin at a cookout

Dear Birthparent,

First, we would just like to say how incredibly grateful and fortunate we are to take the time to learn more about us. We cannot even begin to imagine how difficult things may be for you so it is hard to even try. Please know that with us your child will be raised in a happy, loving home with lots of friends and family to call their own. Please also know that you are welcome to stay in touch with our family however long you like or if you like. We will always be here for you if you need us. Also, most importantly, please know that raising your child will be the highlight of our life. We will make sure that he or she will have every opportunity to succeed in life and grow and develop into someone special. Know that it is you and you alone that made it possible for someone who has no possibility of having children of their own to have a family. We will speak of you fondly to your child often and forever be appreciative and loving of your gift to us.

Sincerely,

Mark and Katie



Why Adoption?

Our story for adoption stems from infertility. After several years of trying to have children naturally, we decided to undergo testing. It was discovered that a genetic issue made it impossible for Mark to have children and after undergoing unsuccessful IVF and 14 unsuccessful rounds of IUI, we came to the conclusion that we must be destined to adopt children into our home. We grew up around large families and have always wanted to have children of our own. It has been hard over the years, trying and waiting with no luck. We very much believe now that we were meant to adopt our family. We are so happy and excited and know that the best is yet to come in our journey.

Building Blocks Adoption Service Inc.