



Right

By choice we have become family...



Thank you so much for taking the time to read our profile. We are so blessed to have a beautiful son and are very excited to add to our family again through adoption. We hope that, within the pages of this profile, you can better get to know us and the love our family will provide to your child.

Nicole and Aaron
and Zander



The beginning





Aaron and Nicole met in college a little over twelve years ago. They were both in same boring class (psychological statistics) and had several friends in common that introduced them. After class one afternoon, they decided to go to a local coffee shop to study. They ended up getting no studying done and instead talked the entire evening about their hopes, wishes, and dreams. Before the night was over Nicole knew that she was going to marry Aaron, it was like Aaron was other half of her that she had been waiting to find. After nine years of marriage, they love each other more everyday and have a relationship full of laughter and happiness.



Aaron's graduation



A childhood Christmas

Aaron is very outgoing and has the ability to make people laugh with his contagious sense of humor. Aaron tells Nicole that she is warm, loving and kind to people that she meets and that she can light up a room with her smile. Nicole thinks that Aaron is a joy to be around and a wonderful friend and partner.

Aaron is a doctoral level psychologist with the Air Force. He helps all kinds of people with their problems and loves his job. Nicole has a master's degree in counseling psychology and bachelor's degrees in elementary education and developmental psychology. When their son, Zander, was born, Nicole quit her job to be a stay-at-home mommy. She loves the time with Zander and they have lots of fun going on walks, dancing, and playing.

Nicole with our nephew



Nicole as a little girl



Nicole with her mom



Aaron and Nicole were extremely blessed to receive a phone call in March of 2009, to let them know that they had been selected by a birthmother. Aaron and Nicole were able to spend a lot of time with her, and she asked if Nicole would be present for her labor and delivery of her baby. In April, Alexander (“Zander”) Ryan was born.

Zander is a beautiful child, full of curiosity and joy. He is always smiling and loves to dance. Nicole, Aaron and Zander have dance parties in their living room almost every night. Zander is very outgoing and loves other children and all animals. He is sweet and compassionate and kisses all his toys goodnight each night. He loves snuggles and has brought so much happiness to Aaron and Nicole’s lives.

Aaron and Nicole look forward to sharing every new adventure with Zander and hopefully a new brother or sister too! As a family, they have so much love to give, and Zander would make an incredible brother.





With newborn Zander in the hospital after he was born



Zander



Aaron, Nicole and Zander moved to Okinawa, Japan in September 2010 and will live there for the next few years. They love their new home and live very near many beautiful beaches. Closer to the Philippines than Mainland Japan, Okinawa is an island over 1000 miles south of Mainland Japan and has not been affected by the horrible earthquake that has struck mainland, or by any radiation effects. Okinawa is a beautiful subtropical island and is often called the "Hawaii of Asia." Since coming to this amazing place, Aaron, Nicole and Zander have explored ancient castles, played at many of the island's over 150 playgrounds, vacationed at beautiful beaches, and learned about the Japanese culture.

Japan

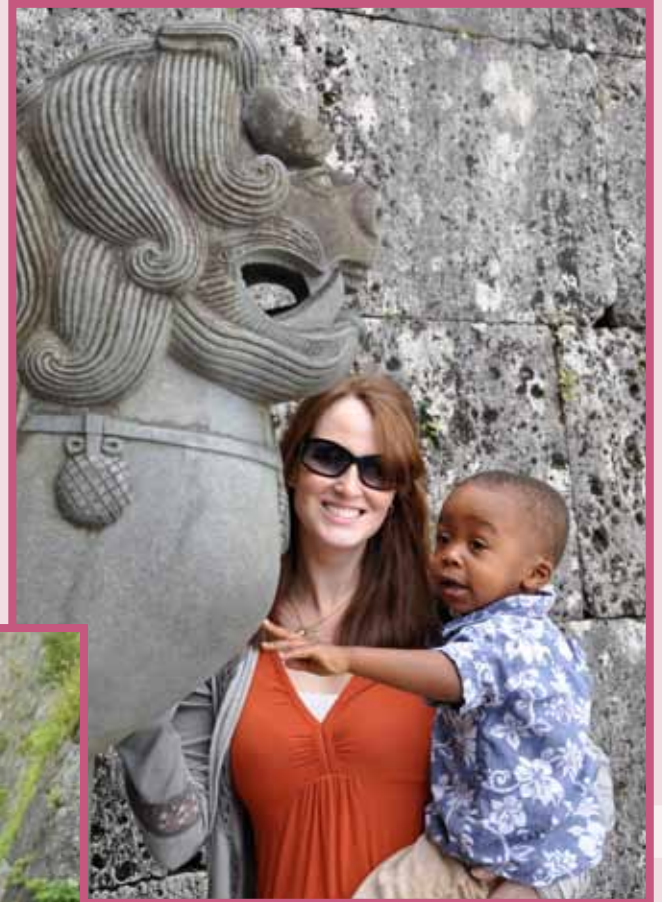


Learning to eat with chopsticks





Zander at the shore



Zander and Nicole explore a castle



The Okinawan people are very loving of children and have many festivals and holidays honoring them. Zander likes to bow and is starting to learn some Japanese words. His favorite thing to do is to play on the beach and throw rocks into the ocean. Nicole and Aaron love snorkeling and scuba diving. As traveling is important to both of them, they have several upcoming vacations planned, including a family trip to Thailand in the fall and Hong Kong in the winter. Nicole's mother has already visited Japan to spend time with her grandson, and Aaron's parents will visit for nearly two months this winter.





Nicole with two of her good friends

Aaron with his best friend Henry



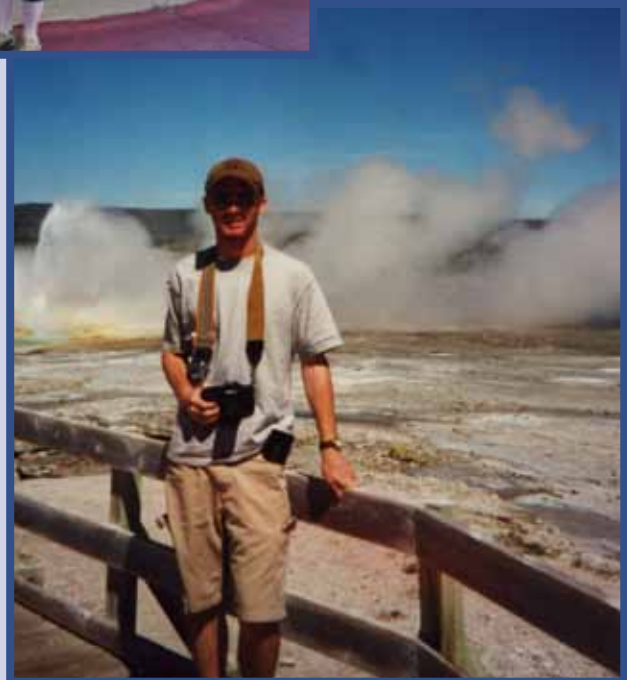
Hobbies

Eating out with a group of our friends

In addition to traveling, one of Aaron and Nicole's favorite things to do is spend time with family and friends. Being in the Air Force has helped them to make friends all over the world and they are blessed to have a tremendous amount of support.



Other hobbies they enjoy together include hiking, camping, swimming, and biking. Aaron plays the bagpipes and Nicole plays the piano and flute. Zander's favorite hobbies include playing with trains and dancing. Above all, their favorite hobby is spending time together.



With both sets of parents

Family



With Aaron's brother and sister-in-law and our nephew Tristan



Aaron, Nicole, and Zander are very close to their families. Aaron and Nicole have a seven-year-old nephew (Tristan), and a four-year-old niece (Lillie). Their friends and a family have been very supportive of their adoption and are so excited to be adopting again. Aaron and Nicole's families have spent a lot of time with Zander and are already planning visits to see the new baby when he or she arrives. They are incredibly lucky to have such wonderful people in their lives. They have a family full of love and can't wait to share that love with the new baby.

Aaron and Nicole both enjoy spending time with their godchildren, niece and nephew, and their friends' children. Aaron and Nicole have also both worked with children at a professional level, teaching children coping skills to help with their emotional and behavioral problems. Nicole has previous experience working at a preschool and teaching first and second grade. Zander loves other children and is very sweet and gentle.



We meet our new nephew





Dear Birthparent

We are humbled at the chance to be your child's parents and we cannot imagine the painful decisions that you have had to make. You are making our dreams come true and we are forever grateful to you. Please know that we will love your baby with all of our hearts. It is our wish to eventually adopt several children so that they will know the love of a family and the joy of having brothers and sisters.

Thank you again and God bless you.

Aaron and Nicole

