



Never forget for a single minute:  
You didn't grow under my heart, but in it.

Fleur Conkling Heyliger



We are so grateful for the opportunity to share our story with you. We have been married for 11 years, and we are elated to begin this journey of adoption and finally become the family we have dreamed of. If we are blessed enough to be chosen as the family to raise your child, you should know that your child will be surrounded by an immeasurable amount of love.

# Travis & Kristi



*Travis working with horses*

*Travis is good at being silly (below)*

*Fishing with Uncle Travis*



## Travis's...

**Job:** Business Owner

**Education:** High School

**Favorite Hobby:** Horseback riding

**Dream Job:** Blacksmith

**Favorite Thing to Cook:** My famous baked beans

**Vacation Spot:** Table Rock Lake

**Childhood Memory:** Riding on Grandpa's Tractor

Travis enjoys restoring classic cars and his most recent accomplishment is a 1966 Ford Mustang that he has spent the last two years working on. He also has a huge four-wheel drive truck that he built several years ago. One of Travis' favorite summer hobbies is fishing, and he loves taking our nieces, Mollie and Rachel. We always pack a picnic lunch and enjoy it outdoors. Sometimes we catch a few fish but we usually come back soaking wet from splashing around in the water. Travis cannot wait to have a child to take on fishing trips and picnics. Travis also enjoys horseback riding and has been riding horses for many years. He even taught Kristi how to ride.

# About Travis



*Roasting marshmallows with our nieces*



*Kristi loves to bake and garden*



# About Kristi

Kristi loves to plant flowers and work in the yard. Every spring we go to Pioneer Orchard and pick out the prettiest flowers we can find for the flower bed. Kristi loves to have Mollie and Rachel help with the planting. There is something about playing in the dirt that all kids seem to enjoy. Kristi also enjoys shopping and going out to eat with friends. She has a real talent for decorating the house and is always being recruited by friends and family members to help them pick out a new paint color or redecorate a room. Kristi is so excited about decorating the nursery and making it a wonderful room for your baby to be rocked to sleep in each night. Kristi also enjoys going fishing with Travis and taking our nieces on weekend camping trips where we cook over the campfire and roast marshmallows.

## Kristi's...

**Job:** Registered Nurse

**Education:** Associate's Degree

**Favorite Book:** *Inez of My Soul*

**Dream Job:** Interior Decorator

**Favorite Thing to Cook:** Sunday morning breakfast

**Vacation Spot:** Smokey Mountains

**Childhood Memory:** Fishing with my Dad

*Kristi tubing with her sister Lisa  
and niece Rachel*



*At Table Rock Lake*



*Mollie helping navigate on Table  
Rock Lake*



*A summer family gathering*

# Outdoors

We are very active people and we love the outdoors. We take regular trips to Table Rock Lake, which is just a few hours from where we live. It is a great place for a family vacation or a summer trip. Our home is also surrounded by beautiful scenery and walking trails, and if the weather permits we try to walk every day. We cannot wait to take these walks with a child, and to share our love of the outdoors with him or her.

Summer is our favorite time of the year. Every weekend is filled with activities that we share with our whole family, such as fishing, camping, boating, and barbecues. These are wonderful opportunities to laugh, talk and enjoy some fabulous cooking.





*Kristi's family gathers for Christmas*

*Kristi and her mom help our dog Dish open his Christmas present (below)*



*Playing in the snow*



Many of our family traditions revolve around the holidays. We spend each and every holiday with our families. At Thanksgiving we host a dinner in our home. We love to set the table with candles and fresh flowers. Our absolute favorite holiday is Christmas. We go to church on Christmas Eve and then spend the evening at Kristi's parents' house. Kristi's mom greets everyone at the door with new pajamas and we change out of our church clothes into our new pajamas.

# Holidays





*Travis with his brother and sister*

*Our families together*



*Gathering with friends and family at the ball game*



*Kristi with her mom*

Our extended families are thrilled about our decision to adopt and bring a new little one into our family. We are very fortunate to have our extended family close by. Kristi's parents live just down the road from us and are excited to welcome another grandchild into the family. They will be a huge part of this child's life and will be there for every celebration and accomplishment.

# Our Families



*Playing with Uncle Travis on the slip-n-slide*



# Our Nieces

We have two beautiful nieces, Mollie who is 9 and Rachel who is 7, who live right next door to us. They are a huge part of our lives. Mollie and Rachel are very excited to welcome a little cousin into the family. They are both excellent students and will be so good at teaching their little cousin how to draw, color and learn to write his or her name. Mollie will be a little “mother hen” watching over her little cousin and keeping him or her safe. Rachel is the comedian and will no doubt keep her little cousin entertained with her silly dancing.



*A day at the lake with the nieces*

*Travis and Dish the dog work on our family farm*



# Our Home

Our home sits among the rolling fields on the outskirts of town. We get to enjoy the best of both worlds in that we feel like we live in the country, but it is just a short drive to town. Our growing community takes pride in its schools, parks and churches. The school system is the best in our area and people from all over the surrounding area choose to live in or move to our community just because of the schools. We own a successful small business that Travis runs, and Kristi works as a nurse at one of the two large hospitals that are located in our community. We have a lovely home and a huge yard that is perfect for running and playing. We also have some beautiful trails and places to walk near our home, which is something we enjoy doing together. Our community has so many places and activities that revolve around children and family activities.



*Feeding the geese*



There are so many great activities and things to do near our home. In the spring and summer there are fairs and picnics. We also love going to the St. Louis Zoo and Grant's Farm, which has many animals including the famous St. Louis Clydesdales. Mollie and Rachel's favorite thing to do at Grant's Farm is bottle feeding the baby goats. We live in a great part of the country because we get to enjoy all of the seasons, from the hot summer days to the times of snow covered pastures. We love spending summer days in the park, where we can walk on the trail, ride bikes and feed the ducks. We also get a fair bit of snow each year and we take full advantage of it. We love to get all bundled up and go sledding and build snowmen. We cannot wait to have a child in our lives to share our favorite activities with.



*Kristi and Mollie on a ride at Silver Dollar City*

# Neighborhood

*Our wedding*



*Kristi at the theater*

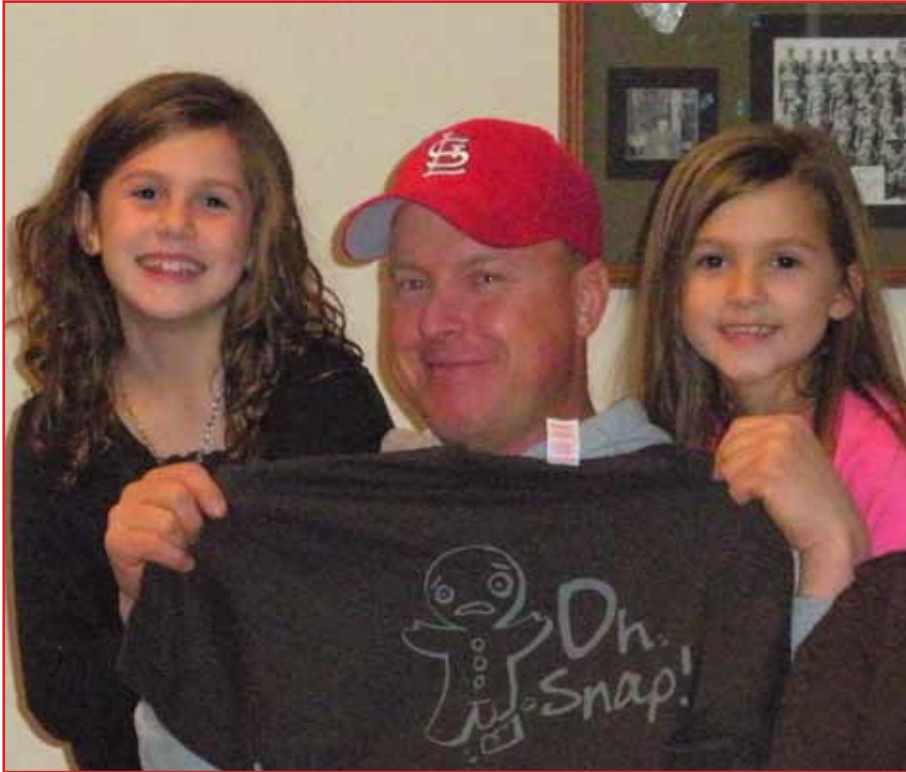


We have been married for 11 years. After three years of marriage we decided it was time to start our family. Over the past several years we pursued multiple fertility treatments which were unsuccessful. We then began talking about adoption. The more we talked about it, the more excited we became about the thought of adopting. We feel that adoption is a wonderful and magical way to start a family. We know that we will love and adore any child that comes into our lives.

# Adopting



*Travis shows off a present from the nieces*



*Kristi loves animals*



# Becoming Parents

We are absolutely thrilled about the prospect of becoming new parents. We have a strong relationship with each other, and we know that a child will enhance our lives in every way. We have two beautiful nieces who live right next door to us and spending time with them has given us some insight into what our lives will be like with children. We believe that raising a child is the most important thing we will ever do and we will devote our lives to that child. We have had several years together as a married couple and that has given us the opportunity to do so many things together. We know that we are now more than ready to welcome a bundle of joy into our hearts and our home.



*Kristi with a friend*

# Dear Birth Parent



We are so grateful that you have taken the time to read about us and consider us as an adoptive family for your child. We feel that the most important aspect of a family is love and respect for each other. We are a Christian family with good, solid values, and we will raise your child with those same values. We believe in working hard to achieve our goals. In raising a child we will nurture and guide them, and we will help them realize their talents. We promise to provide your child with everything he or she needs to thrive and succeed.

We know that your decision to choose adoption for your child is not an easy one. We feel that it is very brave and selfless. We cannot begin to know what you are feeling, but we hope that we can provide you with reassurance and peace of mind that you have made the right decision. We want you to know that your child will be the center of our world. We will love your child, and you will always have a special place in our hearts and prayers. We promise to send you pictures and letters so that you can watch your child grow. We know that it is important for you to know that your child is happy and in a loving environment.

We have longed for a child for many years and we are thrilled that we may soon have a child that we will cherish and love with all our hearts. We think of ourselves as parents already, we are just waiting to be blessed with a child. We have an incredible, close-knit family who will help and support us. We have good jobs and a secure future. We feel that having a dual income will allow us to provide a child with a comfortable lifestyle and many opportunities as they grow up. Kristi has a job that allows flexibility and is very family-friendly.

We have so many friends and family that cannot wait to help us welcome a child into our home. We will be open and honest with your child about adoption and will share their story of adoption with them as soon as they are old enough to understand. We hope that we will be able to tell them about you and how you created our family for us. We will raise your child, but that child will always know where they came from and what a wonderful miracle adoption really is.

Travis & Kristi

