



Love
is family



We have thought endlessly about what we should tell you about who we are and why we deserve the gift you are about to give, and in the end we hope this small glimpse into our life will help in your decision. I think the most basic thing we can say about our family is that we are committed, good people. We work every day to set a good example for our son, and to work hard to contribute to the community in which we live. We believe in respect, honesty and decency and we funnel that into all aspects of our lives. We work hard to provide for each other and our family and we will be 100% committed to loving and providing for any children we have in the future.

Thank you so much for considering our family.

We met years ago in elementary school, because our parents lived about 10 minutes apart. We didn't know each other well, but in college we reconnected when we ran into each other back home at his family's country store. From that time on, we became the best of friends, talking each other through jobs, relationships and just life. After we both moved back to our home town, we went out on our first date. Lori loves that Chad is so kind and good, and that he is a thinker and a listener. He loves that Lori is quick, and can manage many things at one time. We complement each other perfectly - Chad pulls Lori in and helps her relax, and Lori encourages him to be bolder and make decisions. This helps our parenting, too. Though we love to dream about the future, we are both very practical as well, and always make sure daily needs are taken care of.



Chad and Lori first met as kids!



*With mommy
on Coop's birthday*



*Cooper helps daddy
build a fence*



We have always wanted a family. Although we had talked about adoption prior to having our son Cooper, the decision was easy to make after a delivery that turned into a life-threatening situation for Lori. Our doctor advised us that any future pregnancy would be considered very high risk. We talked and talked about it, and in the end, Lori said it best:

“We wanted to adopt before Cooper, and then all of the scary moments after his birth, it almost seems like a sign that there is a baby out there that is meant to be adopted by us.” And from that moment on, we have focused on finding that baby. We have so much love to give, and so many wonderful moments to share; and we long to bring another child into all of our lives.



Before we go any further, we should introduce you to Cooper. He is a beautiful, brilliant little boy, who amazes us every day with how much he learns and how much he changes. Cooper wants a brother or sister more than anything, and we talk about those ideas with him. We talk about “when we find our baby.” Cooper knows that he came from mommy’s belly, and will ask, “where is our new baby?” We have explained to him that our baby is out there, and we are just waiting to find him/her. We also ask if he wants a brother or sister, and he tells us he doesn’t care, he just wants a green baby. Everything is green for Cooper – it is his favorite color.





Lori is a registered nurse, and now manages a health department/home health agency in a very rural setting. Her job is rewarding because she loves people, rural life, and making life better in the county where we grew up. It's also important to Lori that she doesn't have to pull nights and weekend shifts, so she can give time to her children. Chad is a technician at a factory in a nearby town. His short weekly shift allows him to spend time doing the things he loves, and being outdoors.

*Daddy and Coop check
on our pumpkins*

Lori at Niagara Falls



Chad's hobbies are all kinds of outdoor activities – archery, gardening, hunting, hobby farming, pumpkin raising, as well as all forms of sports (watching and teaching our son). He also loves travel, time with our family, and working on projects around the home.

Lori enjoys traveling, and likes to plan one nice family vacation per year. She also enjoys time with friends and family, gardening, yard work, walking, swimming, and watching a good movie.



Our family tries to take one really nice vacation at least every other year, and it usually involves a beach somewhere. We have been to Florida and South Carolina and truly love Florida. On our off years we try to take small trips a few times per year. We have planned a Disney Cruise in the upcoming months. We always try to fit our son into our plans now, and we want him to enjoy it. We look forward to the day when he is old enough to go west, and the day we have the dollars saved to go to Hawaii and Alaska.



*Hiking in the Smoky Mountains
(before we had Cooper)*



*Cooper with Grandma
(Lori's mom)*



Coop with uncle Daniel!

Our extended family is rather small, compared to many. Chad has one sibling, a sister Julie, who is 12 years younger; and Lori has one brother, Daniel, who is 3 years younger. Both our siblings are married and both have children. Beyond that we both have aunts and uncles around the country, and many cousins, but we are blessed to see them once a year or so. Lori's family gets together often with the kids – Maddie and Cooper were born three days apart, and they love to be together particularly at Grandma's house. In addition, Lori's mom's side of the family gathers once or twice a year, bringing together lots of cousins, aunts, and uncles. Being together at holidays is very important for both sides of the family, and we very much enjoy being together and catching up.

Our families couldn't be happier about our adoption decision. There have been other positive experiences with adoption in our extended family, so we have talked about it in great detail. We couldn't have more support and excitement about the prospect of bringing another baby into the family.

*Cooper and
Cousin Maddie*



*With Cooper's
other Grandma
(Chad's mom)*



Our home is the perfect blend of what we both wanted. We have 6.75 acres, but just outside of city limits. So there is solitude and wildlife just like Chad wanted, but we are minutes away from Lori's office and have friendly neighbors just up the road, like Lori wanted. And the best part for us all a fully stocked catfish pond with Cooper's pet "yellow", the albino catfish. Although we have a fully fenced back play area, we like to take family walks to the pond to feed the fish and "yellow," and it is the most peaceful place you could imagine.

Our home has plenty of room to expand our family. We currently have a spare room that will be converted to a nursery. And we have a partially finished basement that would be any teenager's dream, for when our kids get older. Currently, the basement is the home of our cat Precious, as well as Cooper's extra play area and Chad's man cave. Lori is also setting up a home office there.



Lucy Lu (left) and Sally Dog (below)



Finally, we should mention our pets. The oldest of our tribe is Sally Dog the Beagle. Sally is Chad's dog and he has had her since just out of college. She is loyal to him and will stand on point for hours waiting for him to come home. In 2007 we rescued another dog named Lucy Lu. The dogs love the country –they run and romp and play, and are a true joy, particularly to Cooper. The last of the animal brigade is Precious Cat. She is queen of the home, and loves Cooper. She lets him tug on her – he could drag her by her ears and she'd go along purring. We are blessed with a mixed up bag of loveable pets, and they are so much a part of our family.





We want to thank you again for taking the time to review our profile. We know your decision is a difficult one, but we hope that if you feel our family could be right for your baby you'll contact our agency and we can get to know each other better.

Best Wishes.

Chad, Lori & Cooper

