



"I have a brother named Carter who was adopted at birth. I was born eight months later. Carter and I were best friends and playmates growing up. We were inseparable as children. If Carter was playing fireman, I had to wear a fireman's hat, even if I was playing with my doll babies. We love for Mom to tell the story about the time Carter (age 3) got hurt, and we had to go to the ER. The doctor asked if we were twins. Carter replied, "No we were not twins, one of us is adopted, but I can't remember which." We all knew that Carter was adopted and that made him very special in our family."

Dear Birth Mother

We are Bruce and Rebecca. Thank you for taking the time to read about us and our hopes and dreams for a child. We can't imagine the decisions that you are facing at this time.

Considering adoption for your child is truly a courageous act on your part.



We live in a small community in Southern Indiana, in a one and half story home, with three bedrooms. Our house is in a small neighborhood that is located near schools, leisure and cultural activities, and state of the art medical facilities. Rebecca's family lives within two miles of our home.

Before we were married, we had decided to pursue adoption as our means of having children as we knew that Rebecca is medically unable to give birth to a child (but otherwise, is completely healthy). Our dream has always been to be parents and provide a loving home to a child.

A little about Rebecca:

I grew up in the small community where Bruce and I live now. Mom and Dad (Paula and Bob) are loving parents who gave me every opportunity growing up. As an adult looking back, my childhood was ideal. Mom stayed home with Carter (my brother) and me when we were little. There were trips to the zoo, the parks to feed the ducks, museums, and free concerts at the local university. Mom made sure everyday was an adventure.

Mom and I continue to have a very special bond. We schedule “Mommy and Me” days where we catch the latest movie that has been released or go shopping for the latest clothes, make-up, etc.

Dad and I have always had our special time, as well. Because he traveled when I was little, we had Saturday mornings together. We always ended up at some greasy spoon for breakfast. Dad always got some sort of eggs, whereas I got to load up on sugar (pancakes, donuts, etc.) These days, if I call their house and only talk to Mom, Dad gets his feelings hurt, and I have to call back just to speak to him.

Mom and Dad have been married 43 years. They met at a hospital where Mom was in training, and Dad was there to fix some equipment. Mom still works as an X-Ray technician. Dad is retired and pursuing his greatest passion, golf. They can’t wait to be grandparents, and they will make great ones.



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My parents instilled a hard work ethic in me and that education was my top priority. I was encouraged early on to get a college degree. I don’t know who was more excited when I went to college, them or me. I graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration. Several years later, I earned my Master’s Degree in Health Services Administration. Education has given me a lot of opportunities in my life. Seeing that your child gets a good education will be a priority for us, as well.

I work for a local health system managing a physician billing office. I have over 100 employees. I can honestly say that I have learned to have a lot of patience and understanding managing that many people. I enjoy keeping my brain challenged and learning new things. I plan to take a leave of absence from work after we adopt. When I return, the hospital, in which I work, has an awesome daycare, which we will use. Your

child will ride to and from work with me, and I will be able to check on him or her many times a day.



Rebecca on Bruce:

Bruce is the most amazing husband. Being married to him is a complete joy. He makes me laugh everyday even without trying. When I first heard that he was an Engineer, I pictured the ultimate nerd. But he is not your typical Engineer. Bruce and his business partner, Bob, have been known to roller blade around the office or race remote controlled cars down the hallway. When I met Bruce, he wowed me from the start with his easygoing nature and his sentimental streak. I never truly believed that there was anyone out there who was truly perfect for me, but he is. When I met Bruce, he informed me that he had a grand piano. I have always wished that I could play the piano. I love listening to him play. Our home is very open so you can hear him playing all over the house.



One of the things that attracted me to him is his love for his family. He and his sister, Cathy, have a great relationship. She and her husband, Keith, also have three amazing children.

Bruce will make a great father. He had a great role model with his father. Bruce will make sure that your child knows that he or she is loved all of the time. Bruce will be the type of father who helps your child experience new things like flying kits, playing with Matchbox cars, or going to little tea parties. Bruce will make sure that your little boy will grow up to be a gentleman or your little girl will grow up to be a lady.

A little about Bruce:

I grew up in a small, rural community about 50 miles from where Rebecca and I live now. My childhood consisted of wonderful parents and a sister who is three years older than me.

Mom and Dad (Jean and Bob) met at a hardware store where Mom was working. They have now been married for 49 years. Cathy was born two years into the marriage, and Mom became a stay at home mom. I came along three years later.

Dad worked as a farmer and raised chickens. After several years, he got out of the chicken business and went to work swing shift at the aluminum plant across the river. He still continued farming. I loved to come home from school, change clothes, and head off to find out what Dad was doing in the field or around the barn. Some of our best times

together were spent on Saturdays when we would go to the farm equipment dealers to buy repair parts and to look at new farm equipment. I knew early on that you could not make a living at farming, but I so enjoyed the time that I got to spend with my Dad one on one.

While Dad was working nights, Cathy and I got to spend a lot of time with Mom and her family. After school each day, we went to my Aunt Verna's where we got a special treat, a Pepsi and a snack. I had private time with Mom when Dad worked nights. We would go outside on the swing and just talk about everything. I continue to have a close relationship with Mom to this day.

Cathy and I were always together. Since we lived in the country, we didn't have any other nearby kids to play with. She would play with her Barbies, and I would either play with my Matchbox cars or GI Joes. We would play together a lot too, but I usually had to bribe her. She would only play Matchbox cars with me if she got to play with the green Dodge Charger.

Almost all of the toys I had as a child are packed away in my parent's basement. If we have a little boy, I can't wait to bring out my case of 80 Matchbox cars to play with. If we have a little girl, well... maybe she will play with me if I let her play with the green Dodge Charger.



Cathy and I started taking piano lessons when I was in the fourth grade. When we bought our first piano, Cathy and I saw a grand piano in the store. We both dreamed of someday owning one. My dream came true several years ago when I bought my grand piano. I still enjoy playing the piano in my free time.

I was always very self motivated and graduated valedictorian of my high school class. The only time I got in trouble in school was getting caught playing cards in study hall which my principal mentioned before I gave my graduation speech. I decided to study engineering and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.



After several jobs at engineering firms, I decided to start my own business with my best friend, Bob. We are great partners because we have the same philosophies in business and life. Our firm has enjoyed success over the years, which has given me enormous opportunities.



Bruce on Rebecca:

Rebecca is the greatest wife there ever was. She is sweet, funny, caring, and beautiful. I had pretty much given up hope of finding the perfect wife for me and then along came Rebecca. She has such a fun and outgoing personality. She makes me laugh and enjoy life. One of the things that's great about being married to her is that I get to hear about something completely different than engineering as I hear her talk about her daily challenges at work. She will call me or e-mail me during the day, simply to say, "I love you", which brightens my day. Having been single for such a long time has made me more appreciative of love and family. We have so much fun together and at times, we just act totally goofy.



Rebecca will make a great mom because she is loving and doting on the ones she loves. If we have a little girl, she will make sure that her fingernails get polished and her hair gets done just so. If we have a little boy, she will be out in the dirt playing with him or teaching him to skip rocks on a pond.

Other Interests:

Traveling: Bruce and I enjoy traveling and taking pictures. We both love to see other cultures and other parts of our great country. We can't wait to show your child these places and let them experience their own adventures.

Faith is also very important to us. Bruce attends the Catholic Church, and Rebecca attends the Presbyterian Church. When we decided to marry, we had both the Priest and Minister from our respective churches officiate the ceremony. We are open to each other's faith. We each attend the other's services throughout the year and participate in functions together. We have decided that our baby will be baptized Catholic but that a Presbyterian Minister will be there as well to give a prayer. We will raise our child with both faiths and let our child decide at the appropriate time which denomination they will choose.



Holidays: Holidays are spent with family (both sides). Our family traditions are very similar. New Year's is a day in front of the fireplace watching movies. Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day are the fun summer holidays where we grill out with family and friends. Your child will have lots of family and friends to spend holidays with to play games, eat really great food, and enjoy life. We can't wait for Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny to come bless our house with the joy and laughter associated with those holidays.

Our promises to you:

We promise to tell your child what a courageous act you did by making an adoption plan.
We promise to tell your child everyday how much they are loved.
We promise to hug and kiss your child everyday.
We promise to encourage them in all that they do.
We promise to help develop their skills, interests and talents.
We promise to provide the best medical care possible.
We promise to be there and comfort your child anytime they are not feeling well.
We promise to provide them with every educational opportunity.
We promise to get up in the middle of the night to hold your crying baby.
We promise to sit up late at night waiting for them to come home from a date or with friends.
We promise to be there to listen to their stories if they want to talk or simply kiss them good night if they don't.
We promise to take your child to the zoo, to parks, to museums, and make everyday an adventure.
We promise to read bedtime stories to your child.
We promise to listen to your child and help them grow to become an independent, healthy adult.
Basically to sum this up, we promise to love your child with all our hearts.

We will send you letters and photos, letting you know how your child is getting along, if you wish.

If you are interested in knowing more about us, talking with us by telephone, or meeting us in person, please contact Steve or Joel Kirsh at 1-800-333-5736. If you call after regular business hours, their answering service will page them and they will contact you as soon as possible. Neither we nor they will try to influence or pressure you in anyway. You will not be obligated to proceed with adoption just by calling. We and the Kirshes will try to provide you with the information you need to make a well informed decision.

Sincerely,

Bruce and Rebecca

