



Dear Expectant Mother:

What do you say to the most selfless person we will ever know? How can we ever come close to describing the gratitude we feel for being given the hope of one day being parents? We honor you for the courageous decision you have made to consider all of your options for assuring your baby a bright future, full of opportunities, in a loving, happy, fun-filled home. If you decide that adoption is the best way to accomplish that, we hope you will entrust your precious, soon-to-be born child to us. Please allow us to share some information about us. At the end of this letter, we will tell you how you can learn more about us. We want you to have all the information you need to make what is, undoubtedly, the most important decision of your life.

We want you to know that we are prepared to give your child a life filled with unconditional love and endless opportunity.

Our names are Amanda and David. We have been happily married for over nine years. Like most couples, we talked about children before we were married and agreed that having a close-knit, loving family, like the ones in which we were raised, was very important to both of us. So, naturally, when we were told that we could not give birth to child, we were heartbroken.

Fortunately, we have amazing children that surround us at every turn. We are godparents, Aunt and Uncle, and

honorary Aunt and Uncle to many children. We are honored to be able to “raise “these children with our friends and family. Through these special relationships, we realized that loving and nurturing a child was way more important to us than giving birth to one. Adoption offers us a chance to realize our dreams and to give a child a wonderful life and a bright future. We want you to know that we are prepared to give your child a life filled with unconditional love and endless opportunity. Furthermore, in our home and in the mind of your child, you will always be spoken of with love and respect. We will be sure your child knows that you chose adoption because of your profound love for your child, because you wanted him or her to have more than just a mother’s love.



I, Amanda, am a middle school teacher, and all of my family lives within a mile of our house. Dave is a business owner and always makes time to attend my students' plays and extracurricular activities. We go to soccer games, little league tournaments, cheerleading competitions, plays, art gallery days, piano recitals and the list goes on. Dave and I also enjoy seeing my students outside of school and enjoy sharing in their lives.

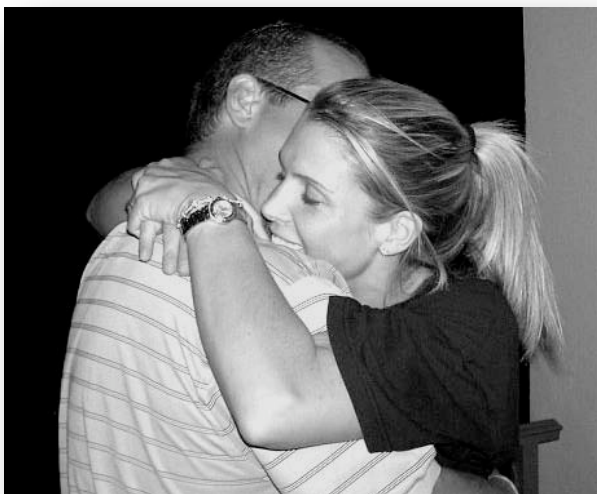
We live in the southwest and both come from sporting families. Dave played division I college baseball, and my brother played minor league baseball. We love playing sports and watching all sporting events live and on TV. We also love to travel. We recently rented a house for two weeks in California. We spent one week alone and the second week with both of our families. We had such a wonderful time cooking, playing board games, riding our bikes and visiting all the local shops. We even tried paddle surfing. Dave was a little more successful than me! We both have wonderful memories of family vacations to places both nearby and far away, and we look forward to taking our child on trips that they, too, will always remember.



[...] This describes how wonderful Amanda is in a crisis, but it's her easy laughter and incredible warmth and joy that really make her special.



About my wife Amanda:



Amanda is the oldest child of two. She has a younger brother who is also her best friend. Her parents were both only children and the family has always been close-knit. Amanda's parents have been married for 40 years. If there is one word to describe their family, it would be generous. Amanda is the kindest, most generous, patient and loving person whom I have ever known. She gives of herself to everyone. Amanda teaches English and reading to children with learning differences. She is going into her 14th year as a teacher at the same school, since she graduated from college. She is always invited to the students' extracurricular activities, and she goes to as many as she can. She truly loves her work and loves her students.



In 2005, Meredith, one of Amanda's young students, was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Meredith was being treated at a cancer center that was far away from our home. Amanda flew to see her two weekends of every month before she passed away. She would bring posters from the other students, video taped messages from the other students. One time, she had so many care packages and cards from the students and friends that she had to check two large suitcases through baggage at the airport.

When Meredith passed, less than a year after her diagnosis, Amanda was asked to give the eulogy at her funeral. She was so calm, and she spoke so beautifully. Never, have I ever been more proud of my wife. She only grieved in private and was a source of strength for the other children. She organizes yearly races in Meredith's honor and an award and a scholarship which she oversees at the school.



This describes how wonderful Amanda is in a crisis, but it's her easy laughter and incredible warmth and joy that really make her special. Students, other

teachers and friends gravitate to her. She is a safe place that can be relied upon for a warm hug, gentle kiss and kind word. When she laughs, everyone knows the fun is about to start!

About my husband Dave:

Dave is the middle child of three boys. His family is huge! His mom is one of eight children and his father has two sisters. Needless to say, the family get-togethers are big. Dave and I began dating in July, and our first Christmas together was 6 months into our dating. I had already been introduced to Dave's immediate family, but this would be my first, extended family, get-together. Dave said to expect singing, skits, and each year one of the children has to give a speech about what they were thankful for in the year. Little did I know...it was Dave's year. Dave explained that when you get to the party, you receive a number. They pin it to you, and when the number is called (they choose out of a hat), they also draw an activity, and you have to do what it tells you. My name was called, and I had to stand in front of 60 people and sing Little Drummer Boy. After the first verse—thankfully—my sweet (eventual) mother-in-law and two sisters-



in-law came up and sang with me. They all hugged me and let me know that I would be ok. This is how it has been ever since.

Soon after, Dave had to give his speech for the year. What he was thankful for...after the long list of important things...his family's health, safe return of a cousin who was stationed in Iraq, he said, and "I am thankful for the best thing that has ever happened to me ... this year...and ever... Amanda." It was a night I will never forget. I treasure the memory of that night, and I treasure Dave's family. They are and always have been a circle of strength...centered on tradition and, more importantly, love.

Dave is like a big hug. He is centered, level-headed and, in addition to being a compassionate listener, he has a terrific sense of humor. I know he will be a great father because he is a loving, affectionate and supportive husband, brother and son. And he "wants to be a dad more than anything in the world."

Although we both work in different ways, it is important for both of us to know that what we do helps others. Although I find my job rewarding, I believe parenting is an awesome responsibility and plan to devote myself to motherhood full-time when our baby arrives

Having recently moved to a cozy, 4 bedroom house on a quiet street in the suburbs near parks and lakes, we're excited about fixing up the nursery and someday turning our study into a playroom. We can't wait to take a stroller along our walks through the neighborhood.



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Our parents visit often and can't wait to come loaded down with hugs and presents for their new grandbaby. Our brothers and sister-in-laws, several of whom are currently starting their own families, are equally thrilled about our adoption plans and the prospect of having cousins around the same age.

We have so much more to tell you and hope you will give us that opportunity. We want you to know

that we will always treasure the moment we are blessed with a child and look forward to raising him or her in a home filled with laughter, a passion for learning and education, solid values, and respect, support and love.

We are truly grateful that there are expectant parents like you who are courageous and caring enough to seek out nurturing and loving couples for their babies. We have so many hopes and dreams and so much love to give – to each other, and to special parents who can help us make these hopes and dreams come true. We would be happy to send you letters and photos letting you know how your child is getting along, if you wish.

If you would like to know more about us, talk with us by telephone, or meet us in person, please let Steve and Joel Kirsh know. You can reach them, any time, at 800-333-5736.

