## ALICIA & CARSTEN



# Hithere!

**ALICIA &** 

CARSTEN

We're grateful that you are taking this time to GET TO KNOW US.



fter trying to have children for several years with no success, we knew that adoption was our path. We're excited to be on this journey and look forward to sharing more about us and learning more about you. This has indeed been a lifelong dream and wish you all the best no matter your decision.

#### WE HOPE

to be the type of parents that embrace and celebrate our child's uniqueness while allowing them to explore their own path. We love learning about each other's heritage and hope to get to know more about yours too, with an open adoption, if that's your preference. We think it's incredibly important to understand our history, family origins, and connecting with family and friends. We live on the west coast and have family in Europe and America, mainly the east coast and south. When we think of our future family, we want to replicate the beautiful childhood we both had, while not picture perfect, it was filled with love and support.



As luck would have it, we met during a business engagement. Alicia was an attorney for the company Carsten worked for, and the relationship just

### **Our Story**

never ended. At the time we lived in two different states. A couple years after that, Carsten wanted to make it official and proposed, hoping we could move to the same state to be together. Well, it wasn't quite that simple. First, he had to tell his mom that he would be permanently moving to America. You can imagine the shock. Good news was that Carsten's family had already met Alicia on several occasions and agreed that we were a perfect match so his mom understood the decision. This just meant that she would now have to visit America. Just a few short months later we married; about a year after that, the parents made the transatlantic trip and now exchange visits each year.



LUNCH DATE





#### In our free time

We love to travel near and far. We also love to explore new cuisine. As parents, we look forward to spending time barbecuing in the backyard, spending time at the beach, and sharing the holidays with friends and family.

DETROIT

By Carsten ▷ Alicia is a loving, caring person and so much fun to be around. She is so giving and truly the most humble, inspiring person you can imagine. I love it when she makes dishes from her southern roots. She's the best cook. She can now make some traditional German dishes that remind me of home. She makes the best holiday meals and enjoys when I clean my plate. As a parent, she will be the rock of the family. BEST FRIEND COLLEGE REUNION



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#### **FAVORITES**

AUTHOR ▷ Maya Angelou HOBBY ▷ Cooking HOLIDAY ▷ Thanksgiving ACTOR D Angela Bassett ATHLETE D Serena Williams CHILDREN'S TV D Smurfs ANIMAL D Dog VACATION D Maldives





## ABOUT Carsten



By Alicia ▷ Carsten keeps me balanced, grounded, and on time. I love that he's so even-killed. He has a funny sense of humor and is the most reliable and organized person I know. As a parent, he will be the one who schedules drop off and pick up. I will be in charge of the yummy snacks.

Because Carsten was born and raised in Germany, he's bought a lot of new traditions to our household. I've enjoyed incorporating some of these into our lives. We pray that we are able to share this with a child soon.



CARSTEN'S FAVORITES

AUTHOR > Henning Menkell HOBBY > Working out HOLIDAY > Christmas ACTOR > Christian Bale ATHLETE > Boris Becker CHILDREN'S TV > Sesame Street ANIMAL > Dog VACATION > Maldives







### Our Careers

Alicia grew up in a small, southern town and even though her family didn't have a ton of money, they had all the love she needed. She worked her way through college and law school and works for as a lawyer at a large company today. She loves her career and is happy to work for a family-friendly company.





OUR

HOME

We're less than one hour from the beach on one side and in the opposite direction we are about an hour from the mountains. Our location is perfect for quick weekend adventures, basically throughout the entire year in every season



OUR BACKYARD

gates.

WFIIVF



Carsten grew up in Germany and moved to America on a temporary work assignment just a year before meeting Alicia. That temporary work assignment became permanent. He could never have imagined meeting the love of his life in America and leaving his native country. Although he was initially shy to speak English, he found his confidence and now... today corrects her English and grammar!



There's not much of a winter where we live, however, we have family on the east coast of the US and in Germany, so we get to experience all four seasons each (non-Covid) year. We live in a cul-du-sac and look forward to playing catch and have the perfect test track for learning to ride a bike. Our neighborhood attracts many for its awardwinning public grade schools, which means there will be plenty of friends around for playdates and also provide a great foundation for college prep.





### Loved Ones



MILKSHAKES WITH GRANNY



ALICIA'S FAMILY







CARSTEN & HIS NEPHEW

Thanksgiving is our family's favorite holiday to gather together. We tend to spend this time laughing and reminiscing about "the old days". The ladies are all in the kitchen and the men are all in the living room of whichever home we select that year. We alternate spending Christmas in the US and in Germany with our extended families to spend time with one another catching up and making new memories as well.

Carsten's family includes one younger brother who is married with three children. Alicia has a bigger family with three brothers and sisters. Her father has 5 siblings and her mother has 9 siblings. Family gatherings can easily attract 50-100 family members. Having a family this big means lots of food, fun, laughter, games, and memories.

ALICIA AND HER NEPHEWS



### We are grounded by faith and love.

These are the values that have strengthened our relationship through all of the ups and downs, including part of our journey with infertility. We remain committed to our families and close friends who have supported us from day one. We know the importance of faith and family, and hope to share this with our child and create a happy home together.





#### Thank you

for taking the time to learn



e truly look forward to learning more about you too. You will always be respected and honored in our home. We will embrace your heritage and find ways for us to connect and make it valued in our family. We promise to do our best providing a loving home full of faith, stability, and laughter. Your baby will be cherished always as the center of our world each and every day.

PEACE & BLESSINGS

Carsten and Alicia