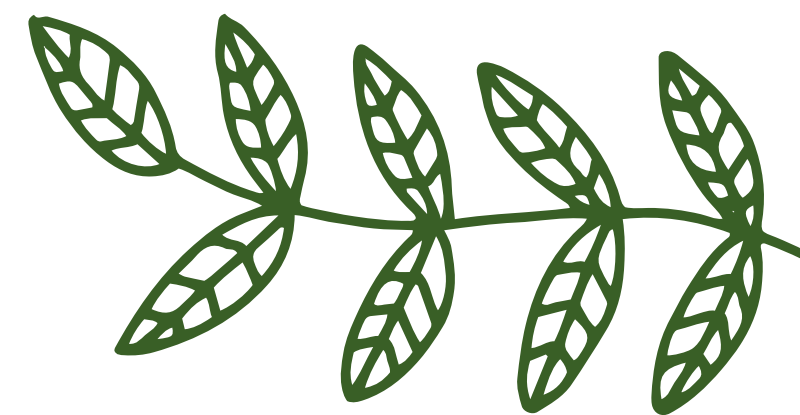


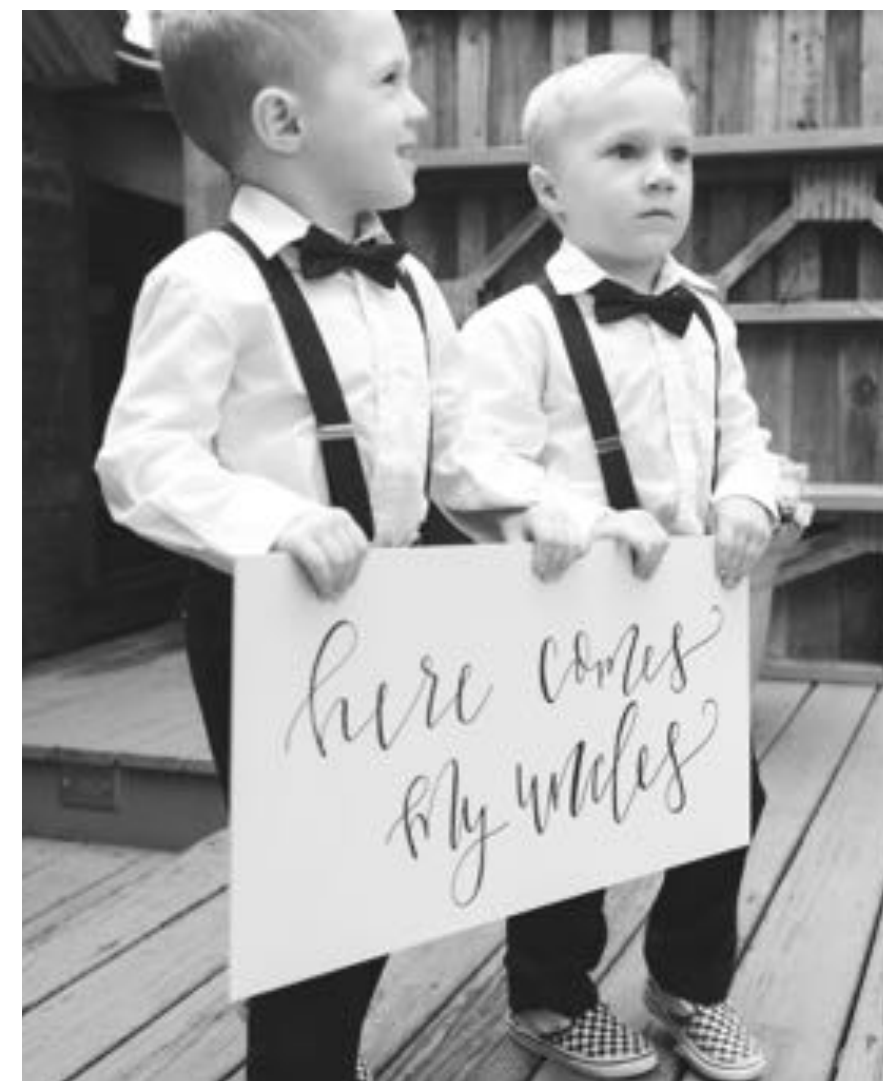
# OUR STORY



We have been together for over 7 years and married for two and a half years. We both grew up in homes surrounded by loved ones and filled with warmth. We have always dreamed of starting a family of our own. We first met in July of 2012 at a mutual friend's wedding in Canton, Ohio. We knew instantly that we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. Not a day has gone by over the past 7 years that we have not spoken to remind each other of how lucky we are to have found authentic love, support and connection in one another.



"We got engaged in March of 2016. I unassumingly arrived home on a Friday evening, as normal, but as I unlocked the door, I heard our special song playing and noticed the entire home filled with candles and pictures of special memories. As I entered the kitchen, Mike was standing there in a tux and got down on one knee, then asked me to marry him. It took me a minute to register the shock - but I screamed "YES!" at the top of my lungs. To top it all off, a few minutes later we went to our neighbor's house to share the news - We walked in to a group of our closest friends and family waiting inside to surprise me! Mike had arranged for many of them to fly in from New Jersey to celebrate our engagement - I couldn't contain the tears!" - Scott



We always wanted to have a big party to celebrate our love. On June 17th, 2017, we had over 300 friends and family come together at our wedding to witness our love and dedication to each other. Overlooking the Chicago skyline, we said "I do", surrounded by the support of our loved ones. This was one of the best days of our lives as we officially became a family and our journey to fatherhood began. It was truly a magical evening that we will always remember.

I am a born and raised 'Chicago guy'. I was fortunate to grow up in a wonderful home with my loving parents and older sister. My parents led by example in showing us what true love is and to value our family traditions. They always taught us to put family first, which is why I am so excited to start my own family and create tight bonds with my own children. I was raised Catholic which has provided me spiritual guidance throughout my life. Growing up, I played a variety of sports, though swimming was always my favorite. As a teenager, I was a lifeguard and swim team coach. I truly enjoy organizing fun events and get-together's with friends and family. Some of my favorite things to do: work out; go to the movies, attend concerts, musicals, etc; cooking and traveling. While I love being active, I also love spending time at home with Scott and our dog, Gus.



**"I WAS TAUGHT  
TO ALWAYS PUT  
FAMILY FIRST"**

## WHAT SCOTT LOVES ABOUT HIM

Mike is such an incredible person and has the biggest heart of anyone I know. He loves hard and is always loyal to me and those he cares about. I found my best friend for life the day I met Mike. He is always in a good mood (like, truly) and never lets anything get him down for too long. His optimism and patience is so comforting and his hysterical sense of humor can make anyone laugh. A true 'family guy,' Mike is a wonderful son, husband, brother and uncle. He is a terrific planner and loves to take care of people. Mike's adventurous spirit always keeps us moving and he pushes me to be the best version of myself. I am so grateful for Mike's love and can't wait to watch him be the most loving dad.



## MIKE'S FAVORITES

FOOD : PIZZA

COLOR : BLUE

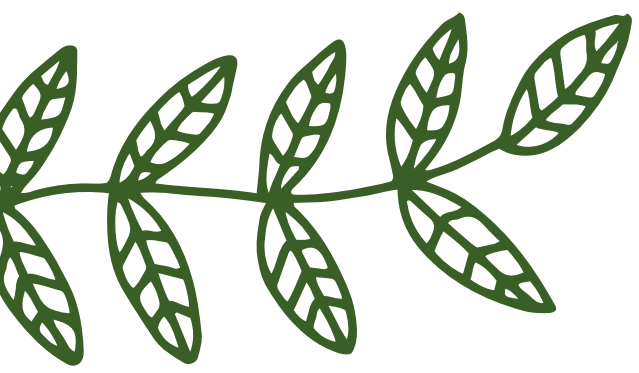
MUSIC : COUNTRY

HOLIDAY : 4TH OF JULY

MOVIE: THE SANDLOT







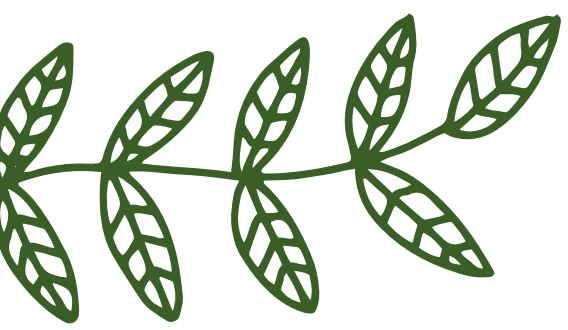
# MIKE'S FAMILY



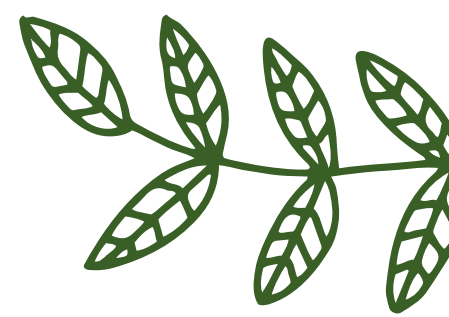
My parents, Don & Sue, live just down the street from us. We get together for dinner several times a week. They LOVE being grandparents to my three nephews and are looking forward to the day that they will be grandparents to our child! I have one older sister who is an amazing mother to her three sons; Donnie (age 9 ) and twins, Billy & Tommy (age 7). I am Donnie's godfather and Scott is Billy's godfather. We love spending time with the boys by playing sports in the backyard or going on special trips to our favorite ice cream shop. Lucky for us, there are many members of my extended family that live in and around the Chicago area, which allows us to get together regularly to celebrate family milestones, see a play or musical, and just enjoy each other's company.



**"FAMILIES ARE THE COMPASS THAT GUIDE US. THEY ARE THE INSPIRATION TO REACH GREAT HEIGHTS, AND OUR COMFORT WHEN WE OCCASIONALLY FALTER."**



# SCOTT'S FAMILY

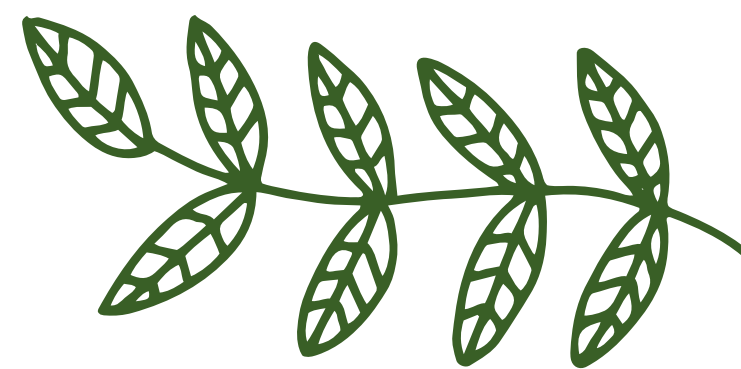


My family is a big group and we roll deep with a ton of pride. My parents, Ann and Pierce, have been married almost 60 years and have been a guiding light for me and our entire family. They are truly the best role models. They exemplify love, tradition, and "family first." They have overcome adversity, celebrated each other a ton and still to this day, remain incredibly loyal and supportive of one another and all of us. As the youngest of 7 siblings and with sixteen years between me and my siblings, growing up was so much fun! I got to experience all of my siblings fall in love, get married and start their families - giving me lots of nieces and nephews. I was even born an uncle! I have incredible memories with my parents traveling all over and spending lots of time at our family beach house. We gather for almost every holiday with lots of kids, and it has truly been a joy watching my nieces and nephews grow into such incredible people.



**"SO MUCH OF WHAT IS BEST IN US IS BOUND UP IN OUR LOVE OF FAMILY, THAT IT REMAINS THE MEASURE OF OUR STABILITY BECAUSE IT MEASURES OUR SENSE OF LOYALTY."**

# HOME SWEET HOME



We moved into our new home just a few months ago. We now live in the western suburbs, about 30 minutes outside Chicago. We moved to the neighborhood that Mike grew up in, and our community is filled with young families. We also now live right down the street from Mike's parents. We can't wait for the day that we will be able to play in the yard and draw with chalk on the sidewalk with our own little one. Within walking distance of our home is a playground, forest preserve and neighborhood pool. We love taking walks through the forest preserve, having bonfires and exploring the neighborhood. Our town has a wonderful downtown area filled with diverse shops, restaurants and a riverwalk. We enjoy spending time exploring the town and being outside as much as possible.

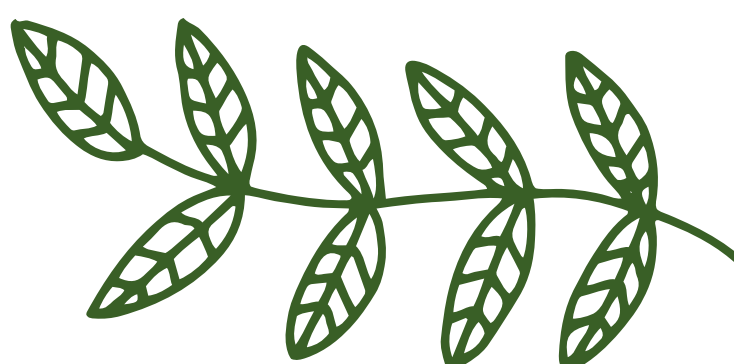


**"HAVING SOMEWHERE TO GO IS HOME.  
HAVING SOMEONE TO LOVE IS FAMILY. HAVING BOTH IS A BLESSING."**



Gus is our 6 year old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. We got Gus when he was 8 weeks old and he quickly became part of our family. He loves going on walks, chasing tennis balls and sitting on our laps. Gus goes to "doggy daycare" three days a week where he is surrounded by other dogs. Gus is great with children and has a wonderful temperament. All of our friends and family have grown to love Gus and he is also pretty popular in our neighborhood. Gus is ready to be a big brother!

# KING GUS



# OUR FAVORITE TRADITIONS



We love decorating our home for the holidays! We usually decorate the weekend after Thanksgiving and the tree always stays up until the day after Scott's birthday on January 12th.



We always cook "Sunday Night" dinner together. This was one of Mike's favorite traditions from growing up and one that Scott has really embraced. Some of their favorite things to cook are tacos, pasta or homemade pizza.

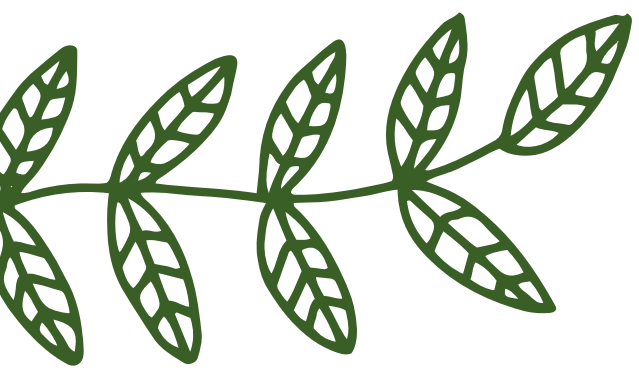


Kamp Kohler! Mike's parents have a lake house in Kohler, Wisconsin and every summer they dedicate one weekend for "Kamp Kohler". We spend the weekend fishing, boating, exploring the woods, and playing card games with Mike's sister and our nephews.

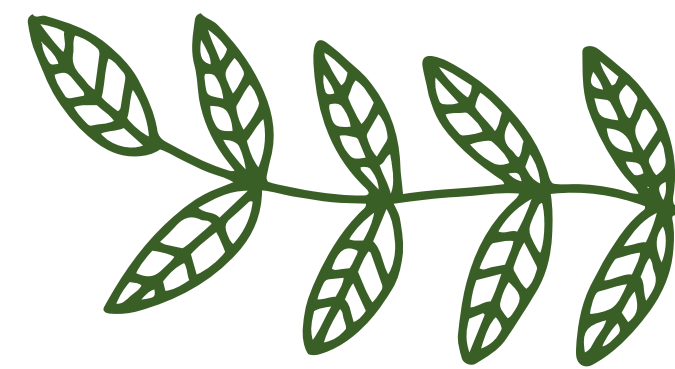


We always travel to see Scott's family for the 4th of July at the Jersey Shore. We go to the beach, play mini-golf, bbq and of course, watch the fireworks. We love taking our nieces and nephews up to the boardwalk to play arcade games and to get ice cream.





# ONE LAST WORD



We hope that this profile has told you a bit more about who we are as a family! We have truly been very blessed throughout our lives and we hope that one day our blessings will continue and we will have a child of our own. If you make the decision to let us be the parents to your child, please know that we promise to provide a loving, stable home surrounded by friends, family and laughter. We hope that you are comforted in this moment and know that you will find peace in whatever path you choose. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for considering us.

