



Alex & Aryn



We met in January of 2008. Alex was a new physician, post-medical school and Aryn was just beginning her PhD program. After moving several times for training and jobs, including an unforgettable few years living in New Orleans, we married in the Fall of

About Us

2014. We moved into our current home in 2019. We both have very stable jobs. Alex is an ophthalmologist at a private practice and Aryn is a professor at a large university. We love spending time at our home on the lake and outside, trying new restaurants, going places we have never been before, and cheering loudly at sporting events. Every couple years, we try to take a vacation to somewhere we have never been before – Brazil, Greece, Tahiti, and Portugal, to name a few. Overall, we are a loving couple that places God in the center of our lives, enjoys life to the fullest with lots of laughter and time with family and friends.



About Aryn

written by Alex

Aryn is one of the most charismatic, energetic, and fun-loving people in the world! She looks at the world with such wonder and excitement – it is contagious! She is, hands down, the best cheerleader and

mentor a friend or student could ever want. Aryn is also the heartbeat of our growing family and the loving center of our home. She is extremely loyal, warm, compassionate, friendly, entertaining, hilarious, and always ready for a good time. Her capacity to love and care for others, mentor her students, and give everything she has to lift people up, even if she herself needs lifting, is unparalleled. Aryn is not happy unless everyone else is happy and enjoying life along with her. I had an idea of what my life would be like when I was young, and the type of woman I would marry. And I thank God every day that I found that and more in Aryn. I not only found the love of my life, but also my best friend.



About Alex

written by Aryn

Alex is one of the most influential people in my life, and I can resoundingly say that he has made me a better person. He is brilliant, ambitious, and has integrity. He is also,

gentle, kind, and loves to laugh. He is grounded and worldly at the same time, and never pretentious. Even though he is the most intelligent and talented person I have ever met, he is incredibly humble, and would prefer to just be “Alex” to everyone – patients, family, and friends. Alex never ceases to amaze me with his interest in everything around the world, and his sense of adventure. Alex encourages me to do things and go places that I never would have dreamed were possible. He is also very family oriented. His respect and warmth towards his parents, other family members, friends, patients, and even perfect strangers is genuine. He is my best friend, and there is nowhere I would rather be than by his side through all life’s adventures.

Our home



Our home is our vacation spot! It is a big slice of heaven right on a lake near where both of us were born and raised. There are three levels of beautiful views, including the outdoor, enclosed gazebo (i.e., the “she shed”). The basement is our sports-watching and music emporium, with a room containing thousands of records from the 1960’s through 1990’s. Our neighbors are extremely kind, and we all look out

for each other in this small community. The most relaxing sounds we hear every day are the waves and wildlife on the lake and watching all the beautiful sunsets from mid-March through October. Our hope is that our children’s friends, neighbors, our friends, and family all can relax and “go on vacation” when they visit.



Our Pets

We have three female cats, and they are very much a part of our family. Zulu Zydeco (ZZ), a Siberian, is 7 years old (and also won an award in 2017 for being the city’s cutest cat!). Abita is the younger Siberian and is 5 years old. Orleans, the Domestic Short-Hair, is 1.5 years old, and was a stray that Aryn found (of course!). All three cats are playful and friendly and good with children and strangers.



fun facts & favorites



	Alex	Aryn
Occupation	Ophthalmologist (Eye Surgeon)	Professor
Education	MD	PhD
Favorite TV Show/Movie	The Godfather and Best in Show	Breaking Bad and any Comedy
Favorite Vacation	Family, Food, and Beach in Greece	Portugal, South America, and Tahiti
Favorite Holiday	Thanksgiving and 4th of July	Christmas and New Years
Hobbies	Playing Piano, Flying Drones, Watching Ohio State Football, Photography, Plane Spotting, Traveling	Home Repair, Watching Sports, Floating on the Lake, Music/Musicals, Mentoring, Bird Watching, Traveling
Favorite Family Tradition	Easter Midnight Church Service and “Afterparty”	Crab Legs on Thanksgiving/Christmas
Background	100% Greek	50% Portuguese, 25% Slovenian, 25% Polish
Food	Seafood	Mexican Food
Siblings	Only Child	One Sister



Aryn's Parents



Alex's Parents



Aryn's Sister and our Nephews

We are very close with both of our families. Alex's parents live close by and we see them weekly for family lunches/dinners.

Aryn's mother lives only 10 minutes away, and we see her more than once a week. Aryn's father passed away in 2017, but prior to that, we spent lots of time with both Aryn's parents – going to concerts, sporting events, and eating at restaurants in the area. Aryn's sister and her family live approximately four hours away. We love

Our family & friends

spending time with her and our brother-in-law and two nephews, which is once every two or three months. One of our favorite activities is to plan a fun-filled visit full of family games, zoo/aquarium visits, outdoor activities, and more whenever we all get together. We spend holidays with both families, making sure to include all of our family traditions.

We stay in touch with many high school and college friends, and many live near us so we see them often. Aryn has close friends spanning from high school through graduate school. Many of Aryn's own Doctoral students are now her close friends, even maintaining those close friendships as they return to their home countries around the world in Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Uganda, Oman, and Turkey, as some examples. Alex has a small group of close friends from high school and others from his days playing in local rock bands.



Our Brother-in-Law and Nephews



Alex and His Friend's Son



Aryn and Her Doctoral Students



Aryn at her Goddaughter's Baptism



Visiting Alex's Relatives in Greece



Aryn and Her Best Friends from High School



Alex and His Mother-in-Law (Aryn's Mom)



Alex and His Best Friends from High School

Hello!

We are so grateful that you would consider us as a potential adoptive family for your child. We hope that learning about us and our life helps to put your mind at ease when deciding on your child's future. Our dream to have a family has not been linear, and thank God for that! Because through all the ups and downs, twists and turns, we found you and your beautiful child. We have so much love to give, with wonderful parents, family, and friends ecstatic to meet your child and be an active part of our growing family's life. We promise to provide a safe, loving home for your child and to raise him/her to the best of our abilities. We will give your child a life full of love and happiness as his/her parents. This adventure is one of the greatest of our lives and we hope that you will be a part of it! Thank you for considering us.

Sincerely,

Alex and Arlyn



What adoption means to us:

Adoption has always been in the forefront of our minds. Alex's parents had difficulty conceiving and made adoption a priority when trying to grow their family. After marrying in our early 30's and solidifying our careers and a stable income, we carefully considered our fertility options and decided to do IVF to freeze some embryos. Unfortunately, the fertility clinic had a freezer malfunction and lost all of our embryos. Although we were heartbroken, this solidified God's plan for us – adoption. Thankfully, we both have close family and friends who are adopted or who have had positive adoption experiences. They have been extremely supportive and look forward to spending time with our growing family. We are so excited for the opportunity to be parents and are open to children of all backgrounds.