



Josh and Maegan



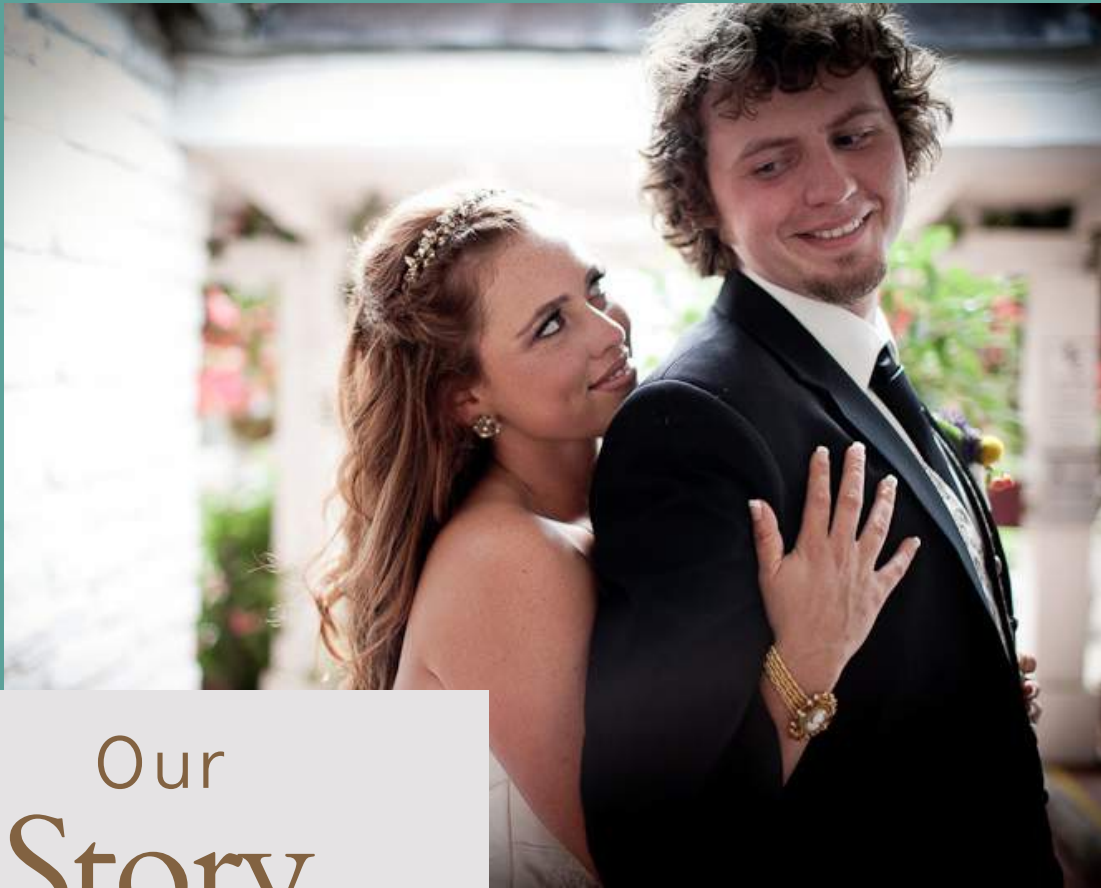
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For Taking the Time

From the depths of our hearts, thank you for your courage and your selfless love. It is impossible to put into words the gratitude we have for you and the immeasurable impact you are making on our lives.

The adoption journey brings us hope, but also waves of nervousness. We fully acknowledge that this is a difficult journey for you as well. We are constantly praying that you find peace throughout this process and that we can jointly decide to make a beautiful life for this precious child.

Your selfless love will always be cherished in our family and in the stories we share with our children. We are so excited to finally meet you and hope we can travel down this path together.



## Our Story

Joshua and Maegan met 16 years ago. It was a courtship that seemed straight out of a romantic novel brought about by a series of unlikely events. Joshua moved to California from the East coast and started working by chance at a local fish market. Maegan decided to take a job at the same fish market since it was biking distance from her house. From a distance, Maegan adored a shy, caring, and “old-fashioned” man that made her smile. Joshua fell in love with Maegan's kindness, laughter, and outgoingness. The connection they made that summer would last them a lifetime.

Parenting is their greatest adventure and has truly sparked a deeper love between them. Through stolen glances and smiles, they watch their family flourish in their love!



# Why We Choose Adoption

We are so blessed to be the parents to our loving son, Elias, and our doodle dog, Sulley. Elias is such a caring, gentle, and playful little boy who is so excited to be a big brother. We have always desired to have multiple children and have been trying to grow our family for the past few years.

After numerous IVF treatments and miscarriages, our fertility journey has left us with an enormous amount of heartbreak and loss. But we soon realized that God had different plans for our family, and this sorrow was not the end of our journey. We are now filled with so much hope and peace because we know that adoption is the path God had planned for us all along and we are following this path wholeheartedly.

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“Adoption is not a new concept to us. We have close friends and family who have adopted, and are comforted knowing our future baby will not be alone in this journey. We are overcome with joy and hope knowing that a child will one day be able to join our special family. We have been longing and praying for them every second of every day.”.

**Maegan and Josh**



# We Promise

We promise to meet you where you are on this emotional rollercoaster and to hold your hand with affection, acceptance, and love. We will forever hold you and your selflessness in the highest regard and protect the greatest gift we have ever received, a beautiful child. We will honor your legacy by raising your child as our own. We will raise them in a safe, stable, loving home that is warm, caring, playful, and accepting. We promise to nurture their creativity, support their individuality, and provide them with the tools to explore new ventures and embrace their dreams. We will teach them to be kind, honest, and compassionate. We promise to kiss every boo-boo, always be there to give a hug, and love them every moment of every day forever.



# All About Maegan

I am from California and am very close to my parents and sister. My Mom is Mexican and my Dad is Irish. I think my family does a great job blending both cultures and traditions. When I first met Joshua, I was immediately welcomed into his family. His nephews have become such an integral part of my life, and I am so honored to be their aunt.

I am a Utility Manager and have a master's degree in planning and public administration. Although I get fulfillment in my work, my priority remains my family. I will be staying at home full-time when a baby joins our family.

Being a mom is truly my happy place. I have had thrilling adventures like hiking Machu Picchu and snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef, but nothing brings me more joy than experiencing the world next to Elias. I enjoy spending time at the beach or finding unique treasures at antique shops. I feel most at peace hiking and gardening in our backyard with Elias.

Joshua and I make it a point to attend every activity with Elias as a family and truly love watching him learn and explore new endeavors



# Maegan's Favorite Things



## Hiking

I love admiring the natural settings of Southern California, whether it is at the beach or mountains. As a family, we try to explore a lot of the local trails and love to do mini-road trips to the mountains for some more adventurous trails.

If there is a reason to celebrate, I am the first one there. I have had so much fun throwing Elias's birthday parties, such as a Dinosaur Party and the latest "Reach for the Star" Toy Story party with a huge bouncy house.

## Celebrations



## Adventures

I have had some pretty incredible experiences with Josh that I will always cherish. We have had an amazing time in Iceland glacier climbing and enjoying the natural hot springs.

We have created a wonderful garden that is my happy place. I feel so blessed that I can provide him with a hands-on experience that teaches him how things grow and how to take care of plants.

## Gardening



## Fur Babies

I have a huge heart for our fur babies. We had a Blue Heeler named Kiah for over 14 years, and she never left our side. We have a new puppy, Sulley, who loves playing fetch and running up and down the slide with Elias.



# All About Josh

I grew up in the Pennsylvania countryside with my three siblings and have fond memories of exploring the woods and being in nature. I enjoy fishing, riding motorcycles, and camping, but mostly I enjoy going on adventures with my family.

I have a background in construction and am a Civil Engineer in the city. I consider myself very handy and like to work on my bike or build. Even though I wouldn't say it was all fun, I am proud that I was able to remodel our house and make it perfect for our family.

I have had a very large role in my nephews' life since they were born. I moved in with my sister to help her care for the boys and consider them my own. I was there during the late nights, practices, heartbreaks, and driving lessons, and watched them succeed in college. My relationship with them made me the man I am today, and I wouldn't change it for the world.

I adore the family unit Maegan and I created and absolutely love being a father to Elias. Whether it is swim class, karate, riding a bike, or watching shows, I enjoy being there supporting my son.



# Josh's Favorite Things



## Snow Fun

I have so much fun making sledding trails for Elias during the winter and going down them with him. The best part of the rides is watching Elias's face light up and hearing him laugh the whole time!

Maegan and I have had some pretty adventurous vacations, from hiking Machu Picchu and riding a reed canoe in Peru to driving across the country in Scotland and Ireland, Glacier Ice climbing, volcanic caving, and snorkeling the freezing cold Silfra Rift

## Trips



## Building

I was raised on a farm. I learned how to work with my hands. This led me to construction, eventually pursuing a career in civil engineering. I was able to remodel our home and have had fun showing Elias how to build with his hands as well.

As Elias has grown up, I have had fun taking him to sporting events like hockey games, baseball games, the monster truck show, football games, and have gone bowling too!"

## Sports



## Adventure

I absolutely love adventure. I grew up competitively racing motocross and still follow the sport. I enjoy riding ATVs and the occasional leisurely rides on my motorcycle to the mountains.



# All About Elias

We have one biological son named Elias. He is 4 years old and full of energy. He loves playing with his little figurines, pretending he is Spiderman or a ninja turtle, playing with building blocks, making animals with his playdough, playing baseball outside, attending swimming class, and going to the park. He is very social and thrives when he is around other children.

Elias is a really caring and compassionate child. He loves to laugh and have others laugh around him. That does lead to a lot of silly faces and tickles throughout the day. He shows extreme concern when others cry, and he tries to cheer them up with a smile or a gentle rub on the forehead.

He has been asking for a brother or sister for a few years and would enjoy playing with them, singing them songs during nap time, and having a lifelong buddy to call his “best friend”!

When we go to the fountain in town, Elias always throws a penny in and wishes for a baby. I believe he will be a very attentive and loving big brother and will be so excited to give the baby a big kiss!

# Elias's Favorite Things



## Friends

He has grown up with a great group of friends. Elias loves meeting with his friends for picnics at the park, hikes, the zoo, the pumpkin patch, dance parties, and playing hide and go seek in his playroom!

Elias has really enjoyed cooking and baking. He loves to taste and measure all of the ingredients. He loves to help cook dinner and make "a list" for the grocery store. He makes cookies for the neighbors and pancakes every Sunday.

## Baking and Cooking



## Nature

Elias loves being in nature. We live about 15 minutes from the beach and try to go there every weekend. During the winter we head up to our local mountains to go sledding or hiking. We live about 45 minutes away and always get hot chocolate for the ride there.

Elias loves spending time with his amazing grandparents. Elias calls Joshua's dad Grandpa and loves going to the beach with him or visiting him back East. Elias calls Maegan's parents Coco and Benji.

## Grandparents



## Family Dogs

Elias loves his family dogs. Our Blue Heeler, Kiah, followed him everywhere since he was a baby. Kiah unfortunately passed away after being such a special part of our family for 14 years. We recently adopted a Doodle named Sulley. He is 11 months old and loves to play.



# Maegan's Family



I am very close to my family and blessed to live near my parents and younger sister. My mom is the middle of 13 children, and I have over 70 first cousins. My mom is a social worker and my dad is a history teacher. My parents are high school sweethearts and provided a great example to Joshua and me of what a healthy marriage looks like that is centered on God, respect for each other, and equality.

Anxiously, my sister and I wait for my parents. It's Christmas morning! We go downstairs and see Santa's footprints in powdered sugar on the fireplace hearth. We are so excited and can't stop giggling. My Dad tells me that he hears something outside, we rush out the backdoor to find bikes on the roof! Christmas at our house was always filled with magic thanks to my parents!



Childhood Magic



Endless Cousin Fun

It's a hot summer day and all my cousins' towels are lined around the pool. Coming from a large extended family I have always spent my summers surrounded by cousins. We are playing our favorite game "Sharks and Minnows". I am the shark and everyone tries to jump in quietly to make it across. My sister is the youngest and fast, and am able to tag her through our nonstop laughter.

Our bond is deeper than a typical friendship since we are also cousins. We reminisce on the small duplex our families shared and the time we had a picnic with our favorite chips, Cheetos. We were building sandcastles at the bay and glanced at our blanket watching in horror as our lunch was viscously raided by seagulls. My Mom tried to chase them but it was too late. The Cheetos were gone!



Life Long Best Friend

# Josh's Family



My family lives all over the United States, but even though we are not close geographically, we work hard to stay connected. I have two older sisters and a younger brother from my parents. My Mom passed away when I was young, and my siblings and I formed a very strong bond that will surpass any obstacle that is placed in front of us.

It is a lazy Saturday and my siblings are piling on top of my Dad. He calls us his circus babies as we are balancing on his knees or twirling around like trapeze artists. Through her laughter, my Mom looks at the clock and realizes it is time for our family "pride of lions" nap. We all gather our blankets and pillows to make a cozy bed on the floor. Stretched out side by side we snuggle up for a long relaxing nap!



Siblings



Nephews

I am very close with my two nephews and helped raise them since they were young. I have fond memories of going to their house after school to babysit. We would play hide and seek, pretend restaurant, and baseball. As they grew up our afternoons were spent doing homework on the kitchen table and listening to their adventures about practice. Those boys made me into the man I am today and I love them immensely.

I was an active child, and I had a very hard time sitting still. This didn't seem to bother my Mom who homeschooled me and knew how to nurture my inquisitive spirit. Rainbow beams are dancing across the floor as she tells me to show her my happy feet and cleverly explains the science of prisms. My mom passed away when I was 10 and as I hang a crystal chandelier in my home I see a rainbow on the wall and think of her.



Mom



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# Our Home

We renovated our two- story 6 bedrooms, 3 bath home over the past five years. Every detail in our home reflects the values of family and quality time. We have separate equal-sized bedrooms for our son and future baby upstairs, which is also adjacent to our bedroom. Connecting the kids' bedrooms is a unique playroom that is outfitted with a train/play table, teepee, bean bags, cozy sofa, felt board for sensory play, an art wall for fun creations, and cubbies.



# Our Community and Backyard

We are so blessed to live in family-friendly community in Southern California and are within walking distance to a huge park with nature trails. We go on daily walks to the park, and during the holiday seasons, we like to admire our neighbors' "movie quality" decorations.

Our house sits on almost an acre of land, which includes a large patio, a grass area, a kid mountain for digging, and a garden.

We love releasing ladybugs in our garden and watching them live in the flowers. We also installed a tree house with swings, two slides, and a rock-climbing wall. We love our home and have gone to great lengths to make it safe and warm, while also encouraging fun, exploration, and play.





# We Value...

God • . Kindness • Acceptance • Togetherness • Fun



Our family values are love, patience, kind words, positivity, playfulness, and allowing our children to actually be children. We are focused on meeting them where they are today developmentally, instead of comparing them to others' paths. We strive to be reachable; we want our children to be comfortable coming to us in any situation because they know that they will be met with acceptance and love.

# We Love...



Lake Trips

We are boarding the boat that gives a tour around the lake. As we sail past the pine trees and snowcap mountains, Elias gets asked to be captain and steer. He nervously puts his hands on the wheel and then smiles.

We celebrated Thanksgiving at our house this year. We started the week with multiple visits to the beach then dinner in the backyard. Later we made our way to find seats next to the crackling fire to watch The Grinch on the outdoor movie screen.

Family Gatherings



Holiday Traditions

The smell of slowly stewed meat fills the air as more aunts, uncles, and cousins fill my Grandma's house. It's our annual tamale party and we are organized in an assembly line to make hundreds of tamales for Christmas dinner.

We love our family adventures that are full of fun, bonding, and exploration. Being together is truly our happy place and we greatly enjoy finding ways to create new memories.

Outdoor Adventures



Celebrations

We love to have fun as a family and tend to go over the top on celebrations. My Mom's 50th birthday party "Cinquantanera" was no exception. Everyone dressed up in Marie Antoinette costumes and wigs.



# From Our Family and Friends....

## Maegan's Parents John and Irma

Maegan and Josh are amazing parents. They work very hard to provide a safe and loving home. Maegan is very creative and adventurous. Josh is quick-witted and is great at figuring out how things work (a true engineering mind), and they both have a great sense of humor. Together they make a great team in providing a nurturing environment for our grandson. Most importantly they continually teach Elias about kindness, how to treat others, and being respectful.



## Josh's Nephew Austin

My Uncle Josh and Aunt Maegan are people I have always looked up to. When I was young, Uncle Josh helped raise me. Both of them have showered me with love, embraced my imagination, and fueled my love for adventure. As I grew up they have become my mentors, offering me advice and guidance on anything imaginable. Now they are showing me how to be a loving father and husband. Seeing the bond that Uncle Josh and Aunt Maegan share with Elias is special to me. Elias is lucky to have such an amazing and loving dad and mom.

# From Our Family and Friends....

## Josh's Nephew Gavon

My Uncle and Aunt, Josh and Maegan, are two people who I have the utmost respect for, and I consider them to be a second set of parents to me. As I was growing up, they were always unquestioningly there for me and still are. Josh and Maegan would encourage me to be myself and their love has always known no limit. They have mentored me on various obstacles life has thrown; between going to school, relationships, jobs, and how to find joy in life through difficult times. Josh and Maegan have taken me under their wing a few different times to ensure I had the foundation to stand as the man I am today.



## Maegan and Josh's Friend Anna

As parents, Maegan and Josh are full of love, tenderness, and fun. They teach love and kindness, value education, and fun playtime! They are amazing providers, hard-working, consistent, open-hearted, offer many learning opportunities/activities, and are willing to do whatever it takes for each other and their loved ones. Their son is such a shining example of the fruits of their labor. He is such a happy little boy. He is kind, has manners, is smart, inquisitive, and loving. His eyes light up when he sees his parents. Their bond is so apparent. My children and I love being with them! I know this family's hearts are overflowing and just waiting for another heart and hand to hold. I would entrust them with my own.





# Our Hope For This Child

We hope to guide this child to become a loving, compassionate, non-judgmental, confident, and honest person. We hope to nurture their individual gifts to help them achieve their dreams. We cannot wait to watch them develop, learn, and explore throughout all of their life stages. We hope Elias and this child become best friends and stand by each other throughout all of their life adventures. As parents, we hope to provide them with the tools to become their best selves and hope they know we are there to reach for their hand whenever they fall. We want them to be comfortable coming to us in any situation because they know that they will be met with acceptance and love. We hope they know they are desired and are a precious child of God, and we hope to tell them about the love God has for them. We hope they one day come to know all of the sacrifices, obstacles, difficult choices, and resiliency WE (You, Joshua and Maegan) have gone through to jointly ensure they have the best life possible. Most of all we hope they know they are unconditionally loved by their birth mom and adoptive parents beyond measure.





# Thank You for reading

Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know our family. We hope that it has given you a glimpse into our world and shown you the love that we have to share with a child. We have so much respect for your decision to consider adoption for this child. We believe you are incredibly brave and selfless. We are so excited to open our hearts and our home to a child through adoption, and cannot wait for that day to come.

Please know that any child who joins our family will be loved abundantly and unconditionally. They will be given every opportunity in life to pursue their dreams. We will encourage them to embrace their uniqueness and remind them that "The world needs who they were made to be". But most importantly, they will always know who they are, where they came from, and the love that their birth mother has for them.

We imagine that this must be a difficult decision for you to make and we want you to always feel at peace with your decision to place your child. We hope to meet you soon and are open to answering any questions you may have. We are also working with an agency that offers support services to help you get through this difficult time. From the bottom of our hearts, we wish the best for you and are constantly praying for you during this journey.

Maegan and Josh  
Can't Wait To Hear  
From You!