

EMILY & JOHN

Dear Expectant Parent,

HI! ***We are John and Emily and are thrilled that you are reading this.*** After over 5 years of trying to expand our family and 4 failed rounds of IVF - we are at peace with closing that chapter. We still have the desire to add to our family, whether the child is biological or not (just ask our chocolate lab Poppy). After meeting Emily's sister's foster children, we realized that biology truly does not matter - we would do anything for those kids! We pray every day for you, our future baby, and for God to provide us with a solution that is best for all parties. Thank you for choosing life; we realize this decision bears a lot of weight. We are honored to be considered to care for your precious child.

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about US

Our romance began the classic way... online! Our first date was watching Tommy Boy and eating pizza. We've been inseparable ever since. Being married to each other has surprisingly been the easiest thing we've ever done. We laugh a lot, attend our church, and spend tons of time with our families. Through infertility there have also been many tears, but we believe hard days can be treated over a bowl of queso. Our priority is not perfection. We rarely make our bed and we go through phases where we wing our meal plan. We enjoy laid back days of binge watching shows and quality time together. Our approach with each other is to listen, be supportive, and kind.

our FAITH

We were raised in Christian households, and recognize the importance of how faith can not only provide good values, but also help you through tough times. Emily's best friends are women she met at church 20+ years ago, and we know how important it is to have strong, moral, and fun friendships to get through both good and bad times.



2020 TRIP TO THE GORGEOUS YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



WE GOT MARRIED ON A RAINY DAY IN 2019 AT THE CHURCH EMILY GREW UP IN

OUR THOUGHTS ON *Parenting*

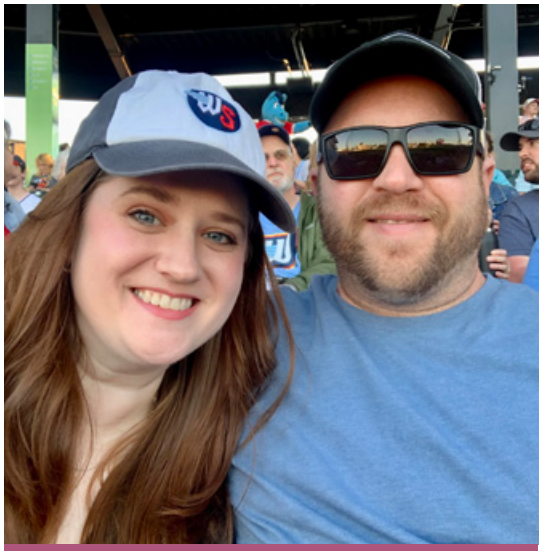
WE believe that children should be unconditionally loved by their parents, regardless if they make mistakes. With each individual child being wired so differently, we do not believe there is a "one size fits all" parenting hack that can be applied to everyone. Learning what motivates a child and how they tick will allow us to apply different parenting techniques as needed. Our goal is to expose our child to many things in order to help nurture them and find their passions. ***Faith, safety, support, and family will be the primary values we hold in our home.***



AFTER ATTENDING A WEDDING IN COLORADO, WE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO DRIVE UP PIKE'S PEAK!



MENDENHALL GLACIER IN JUNEAU



BASEBALL IS OUR FAVORITE SPORT!

WHAT WE LOVE TO DO *for fun!*

For about 13 years, John worked as a cook in various restaurants. He spent most of that time at an Italian restaurant, and enjoys trying new foods. One of John's love languages is cooking for people. He smokes meat, makes homemade pasta, and pizza (he even tosses the dough in the air). John also enjoys hunting, building things, and working on cars. Emily prefers baking, so we complete each other in that aspect! She also reads and her guilty pleasure is reality TV. Together we love to try new restaurants, travel, and spend time with family. We take our aunt/uncle titles seriously and attend many soccer games, dance comps, and music programs. They are always asking to stay the night!

about EMILY (BY JOHN)

Emily is a natural nurturer and a magnet to our nieces. She has been a go to choice as a babysitter for our friends' children and treats them as if they were her own. Emily works hard to excel at her job and to do the best she can. She will also balance all that hard work with hard relaxation whether that's reclined in our sofa watching a show or lounging in the pool on a hot summer day. My favorite part about Emily is her willingness to do anything for our families including going to competitions or soccer games for our nieces/nephew, hosting get togethers, or getting down and dirty to help move an outhouse at the family land. She is also a world class mac and cheese aficionado as well as a Carlos O'Kelly's queso superfan. Most of all she is my perfect soulmate.

about JOHN (BY EMILY)

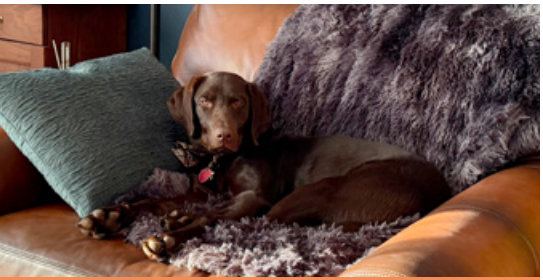
John is an anomaly in many ways. When I met him, I thought to myself, "No way can he be this nice of a person all the time." But here I am, 8 years later, and he truly is that nice of a person all the time. He is laid back, selfless, hard working, and seemingly good at everything. If he doesn't know how to do something, he researches it and learns through trial and error. I've watched John be a fun and loving uncle, and his nieces adore him. He's willing to help me babysit my friend's kids. John is silly and always has a dad joke to share. He's such a considerate man who responds to my stubbornness with love. ***I've witnessed him treat people with kindness who do not deserve it, and I can think of no man who deserves to be a father more than he does.***

OUR HOME & *community*

Our home is in a quiet neighborhood in Wichita, Kansas. One thing we especially love about Wichita is that it feels like a small town, but with large town amenities. We live in a charming older home that we've enjoyed personalizing and making it our own. We have a fenced in backyard and large trees that make our home feel secluded and perfect to enjoy a cup of coffee outside. Over the years we've planted many veggies and herbs that freshen up our meals during the summer. We added an above ground pool to the backyard, and that has been a great way for us to unwind together, away from our phones! Our dream is to one day add a pizza oven to the backyard. We live 10 minutes from Emily's parents, 5 minutes from Emily's sister, and 2 hours from John's family.



OUR HOME IN THE WINTER



POPS...POPSICLE...JALAPENO POPPER. THESE ARE SOME OF THE NAMES OUR SWEET POPPY ENDURES



EMILY'S FAMILY IN OUR BACKYARD ON THANKSGIVING 2024



WITH OUR PARENTS

our FRIENDS & FAMILY

We have been spoiled rotten with the family God chose for us! Both sides are excited to add to the family. John's parents live in Oklahoma, along with his sister and her family. His mom is an avid quilter, while his dad is a prolific artist. They enjoy having an active role in their grandchildren's lives. Emily's dad was literally made to be a grandpa and likes to toy with 3D printing and is building a cabin on family land. Her mother is the sweetest, most gentle and supportive woman. Emily's sister has two stepchildren and two foster children who likely will be adopted soon. Emily's parents view all of these kids as equal grandkids, and our adopted baby will be no different. We are fortunate to have a village that extends beyond our family, with many friends we consider family.



in CLOSING

This journey has undoubtedly been a difficult and uncertain one for all of us, but we truly believe it has brought us together for a reason. Regardless of the outcome, we want you to know that the choice you've made to give life is a remarkable act of unconditional love, and we have the deepest respect and gratitude. We believe that, together, we can find a path forward that works for everyone - whether that's through an open or closed adoption. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us!

John and Emily

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