

Josh + Laurel



OUR
STORY

Hello, we are Laurel and Josh from Illinois! We are so grateful that you are taking the time to learn about us. We wish you nothing but peace as you courageously consider adoption.



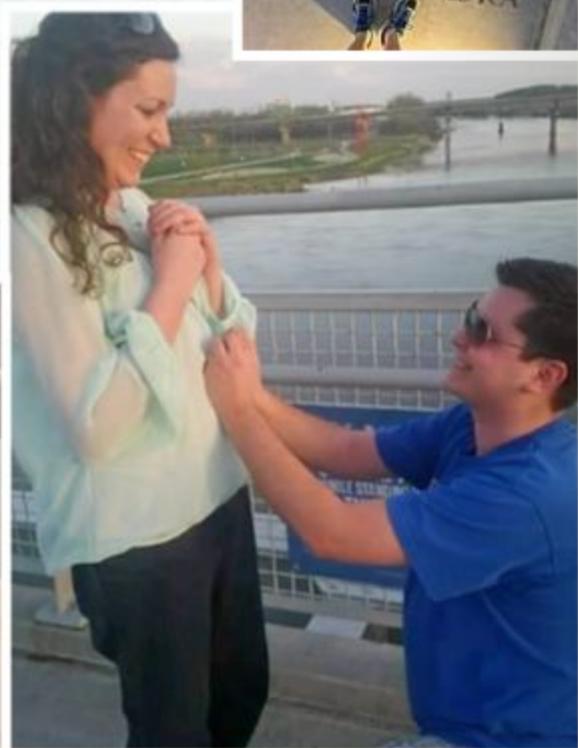
2015 - Met online while living in separate states

2016 - Fell in love through lots of adventures and laughter and desired to build a family of our own

2017 - Got married in Laurel's hometown in Illinois and started our life together in Nebraska

OUR LOVE STORY

Over time, we found out that having biological children would be difficult. We hope that one day our family will grow through adoption.





From Laurel

I fell in love with Josh's compassion, sense of humor, and amazing singing voice. He boosts my confidence with encouragement and empathy. His big, bolsterous heart brings joy to many.

From Josh

I fell in love with Laurel because we share a passion for faith. I love her cooking, her laughter, and her kind, patient heart. She has a nurturing spirit that brings out the best in others.

ABOUT LAUREL

You can find her listening to musicals, baking, reading a good book, or planning our next weekend getaway.

She grew up in Illinois and received a degree in Elementary Education along with a Master's in Literacy. She is also a talented seamstress.

She works as a teacher at our local Catholic School, a career she started 16 years ago near the mountains of Colorado.

Laurel loves a good hike, watching college basketball, and doing craft projects with her nieces.







ABOUT JOSH

You can find him jamming on his guitar, setting up the backyard for a quiet night by the fire pit, or playing disc golf.

He grew up in Nebraska and received a degree in theater followed by a Master's in Math & Data Science.

He works as a supply chain analyst for a large grocery chain and gives his spare time to run the sound board at the local community theater.

Josh is outgoing and loves a good card game, watching Husker football, and singing karaoke.





Playing at the park with our nieces!

Home

Northern Illinois since 2019

A safe, quiet neighborhood surrounded by parks with nature trails and playgrounds

Frequent farmers' markets and festivals

A college town with a strong education system, fine arts, and sporting events





FAITH

We cherish being present to family and friends in their faith journeys.

We desire to raise our children to know the love of Jesus and serve our community through the church.

We strive to provide a safe, stable home where a child's God-given talents can grow.

We value curiosity and education. Laurel will always be ready with a good book or a creative project. Josh will share his knowledge of animals, dinosaurs, and history while passing on his "handyman" skills.





Illinois Family

Laurel's parents, Don & Jan, live 20 minutes away. Jan is a retired teacher and Don is retired from the agriculture business.

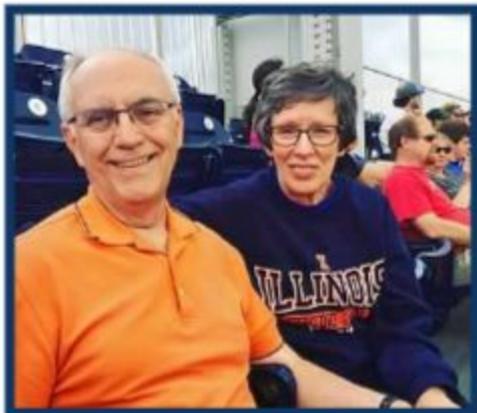
Laurel's two siblings live within an hour of our home. We gather frequently over a good meal and board games.

Laurel's older sister, Sara, is a pediatrician and is married to Vicente. They have 4 daughters-- Maggie, Gianna, Izzie, and Juliet.

Laurel's younger brother, Trent, is a food scientist and loves to travel.

Laurel's closest teacher friends have become like family. They are ready to be "aunties"!





Nebraska Family

Josh's parents, Dale & Phyllis, live in central Nebraska. Phyllis is a retired nurse and Dale is retired from the manufacturing industry.

Josh's older brother, Jason, is a scientist who lives in Massachusetts, with his wife Laura and their two kids, Daniel & Anna.

His younger sister, Jeanna, is a speech therapist who lives in Nebraska with her husband, Matt.

We visit Josh's family at least twice a year and love hosting them. We stay connected with weekly phone calls and occasional online video games.

Josh's closest college friends became like family during our time in Nebraska as we bonded over a love of weekend brunch.





Meet Our Pets

We adopted our tuxedo cat, Clyde, in 2022. He is playful and loves to snuggle next to you. He is always up for a treat and is easily entertained by cardboard boxes and anything that crinkles.

We welcomed our dog, Daisy Jane, into our home in 2025. She is a "Yorkie-Poo" and makes friends with every person and animal she meets. She loves to play at the local dog park and has a sweet demeanor.

This bearded dragon, Frappuccino, is Laurel's classroom pet. He spends school breaks with us and enjoys basking under the heat lamp along with cricket treats.





Dear Birthparent,

We know this may be a challenging and overwhelming time for you. We admire your bravery and hope you feel supported and loved as you make this decision.

If you choose to make an adoption plan, we know there will be both joy and sorrow. We promise to love your child unconditionally and make sure they always know their story. We are open to an ongoing connection with you.

Your child will be cherished by our entire family and community. They will be seen and known and have the opportunity to shine their light in this world.

Know that we are praying for you and your child, for strength and peace throughout this pregnancy.

*Love,
Laurel + Josh*

Everybody needs...
places to play in and
pray in, where nature
may heal and cheer
and give strength...

John Muir



To be matched with a waiting family,
text **"match"** to 844-764-2029

For unplanned pregnancy support,
text **"love"** to 844-764-2029

Many-Hearts.com



Lutheran
Family Service

ADOPTION SERVICES