

JEFF AND JULIE



Dear Expectant Parent(s),

Thank you for taking the time to look at our book and consider us as prospective adoptive parents. We know that this decision is incredibly complicated and you are likely very overwhelmed with the options presented to you. We understand if you have many questions and are not entirely sure. No parent has all the answers. Adoption is a tremendous gift to the receiving couple, but does not come without a lot of emotions on both sides. We hope to foster a positive relationship with you and provide you the peace of mind you seek not only in your decision-making process, but also down the road as your child ages.

Given that we have been together for 15+ years while navigating some of the most difficult challenges in life, we are confident that our relationship maturity and years of building our communication skills will help as we enter parenthood. We want your child to explore their cultural heritage, continue to be connected to you (if desired), and remember how deeply loved they will always be. We promise to show them how to experience joy in life and allow them blossom into who they are here to be.

~ Jeff and Julie





LONDON, ENGLAND

OUR STORY

We met in November 2006 in Louisville, Colorado at an engagement party of mutual friends. Jeff knew the groom and Julie came along to support the maid of honor, her best friend. We talked for much of the evening. Jeff detailed the story of the car accident he survived while stationed at Camp Pendleton in the Marines and Julie shared about her new work in international education at University of Colorado.

Julie left early, which didn't give Jeff enough time to get her number so he asked the bride give it to him. Our first date was four days later at, of all places, the Hard Rock Cafe in Denver. Julie told Jeff there was no way he would be able to find her loft-- her building, a complete maze, was complicated for anyone to navigate. Jeff showed up and knocked at her door without any directions. Once a Marine, always a Marine.

By the following week of Thanksgiving, we were officially together and we have been that way ever since, having just recently celebrated our 13-year wedding anniversary!

WHY WE'RE ADOPTING

We have been trying to conceive since 2015 and have been on adoption waitlists since 2019. While we waited, we also tried to conceive through IVF, and after 3 unsuccessful transfers we were diagnosed with unexplained infertility. When the call to start the home study came, we were excited with the opportunity to expand our family, especially considering we both have adoptive members.

As an adult, Jeff found out he has an older half brother, Kevin, who his mother placed for adoption in New York City as a baby. Kevin was able to locate their mother in 2007 and discovered they were all in Colorado. This meant Jeff had not only another brother, but a sister-in-law and nephew. We have become very close and are thrilled to have them in our lives even though they have since relocated back to New York.

Julie's cousin, Adam, was adopted from South Korea as a baby and grew up in small-town Iowa. Julie has great memories from her childhood with Adam and we always look forward to seeing him at family events or if we are in the North Carolina area.

We can't wait to add our story to the family history and welcome a new member to the family. Our journey has been very long and has taught us not only about grief and loss, but also to continue to have gratitude and hope in the darkest times. It has made us stronger than ever and our cohesiveness will make us a strong parental team.



OUR 10-YEAR VOW
RENEWAL IN
BARCELONA IN
2019



OUR WEDDING AT
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
IN 2009



JEFF LOVES

Travel, Coffee, Board Games,
Cheese, Reading, Movies, His
Nephews, Halloween,
Cooking, Gaming, Comedy,
Tacos, and Laughing



MEET JEFF

I was born in Hawaii and grew up across the west, before ultimately arriving in Boulder, Colorado. I'm a U.S. Marine Corps veteran (Sergeant) and a scientist. I was fortunate enough to work at a summer camp for 7 summers after leaving the Marines; teaching children came naturally. I completed an Associate degree in Automotive Maintenance at Lincoln College of Technology and went on to Metro State University of Denver, where received a Chemistry degree. I currently work for the State of Colorado in the Department of Public Health and Environment.

Always a team player, I strive to leave this place better than I found it, evident in both my military and civil service careers. I enjoy being challenged and continually learning. There are few things more enjoyable than an evening with friends around a table (gaming or otherwise).



MEET JULIE

I am a true Denver native and lover of sunshine. I consider myself the ultimate gift giver and party planner having spent 10+ years as an Executive Assistant. I studied marketing at Colorado State University, took tourism marketing courses during a semester abroad in London, and completed my graduate degree in public health in Sydney, Australia.

I started my career in international education and study abroad and over time shifted into healthcare operations, marketing, communications, and conference planning. I work in the behavioral health sector and have a passion for health education and promotion. I am a strong advocate for mental healthcare. In my free time, I am a family photographer and love to spend time with Jeff, my nephews, family, and friends.

JULIE LOVES

Travel, Photography, Music & Concerts, Scrapbooking, Comedy Shows, Movies, TV, Reading, Swimming, the Beach, Shopping, Karaoke, Coffee, Spaghetti, Halloween, and the TV show, "Friends"



WHAT JULIE SAYS ABOUT JEFF



"Jeff is such a steady, smart, and confident partner. He prioritizes our marriage and communication, and will be the most dedicated father who teaches not only integrity and responsibility, but how to be courageous and positive in difficult times. He has incredible patience and his ability to teach and nurture others will translate into his role as a father. I look forward to watching him with our children and I know he will be a strong, loving presence for them."

WHAT JEFF SAYS ABOUT JULIE



"Julie is loving, caring, intelligent, beautiful, and witty. She is the most organized person I've ever met, planning out amazing adventures and vacations, but also able to enjoy spontaneous fun. Julie gives 100% to everything she does, and is an active equal partner in our marriage. I have no doubt she will always be there for our child. Julie is the best thing that has ever happened to me."



OUR HOME

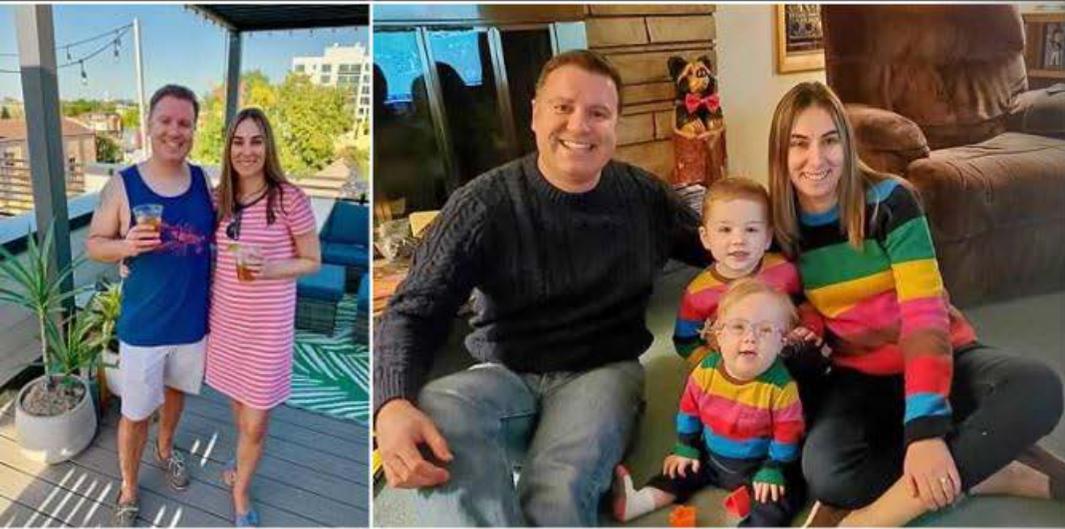
Our house was built in 1967 and it is a charming mid-century modern home. It sits on a cul-de-sac in Denver, which is on a park with a playground, basketball court, soccer and baseball fields, bike trails, and the neighborhood swim and tennis club. Within walking distance, we have a public library, two of our favorite Indian restaurants, and a coffee shop.

We have a bi-level with balconies on the front, a big deck where we love to BBQ, and a backyard with a fire pit. The neighborhood has a lot of diversity in age and culture, including great neighbors about to have a baby, and we are a short drive from downtown.

We have plenty of living space including 4 bedrooms (2 currently functioning as home offices since the pandemic started), 2 family rooms, and a big open kitchen and dining room. It is the ultimate house for social events and you will always hear a Spotify playlist on rotation or a record spinning. When you open the windows and balcony doors, you can hear families walking in and out of the park laughing and having a good time.



OUR VALUES



WE BELIEVE IN
CELEBRATING LIFE'S
UPS AND DOWNS



We are dedicated to each other and to our family.
We believe that home is where the heart is, whether in Colorado or with us on our travels.
We value cultural differences and diversity of people and their situations.
We understand that feelings need to be felt and should not be dismissed.
We rise to the occasion and don't back down from challenges.
We believe in working hard and playing hard.
We are stable in our jobs, our finances, and our relationship.
We take life seriously, but don't let it get in the way of fun and adventure.



STONEHENGE,
ENGLAND



FLORENCE, ITALY



STAVANGER, NORWAY



COUNTY GALWAY,
IRELAND



PARIS, FRANCE



WE LOVE TO
TRAVEL
OVERSEAS AND
ARE ALWAYS UP
FOR ADVENTURE!

ISTANBUL, TURKEY



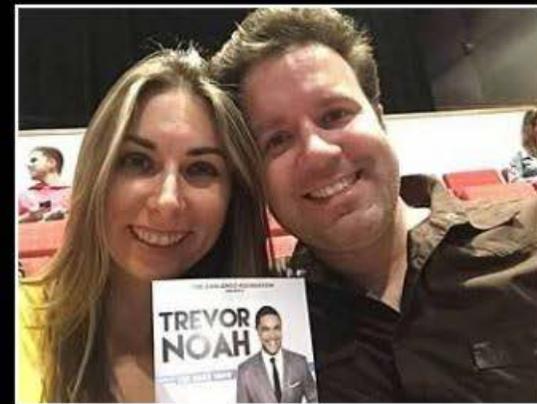
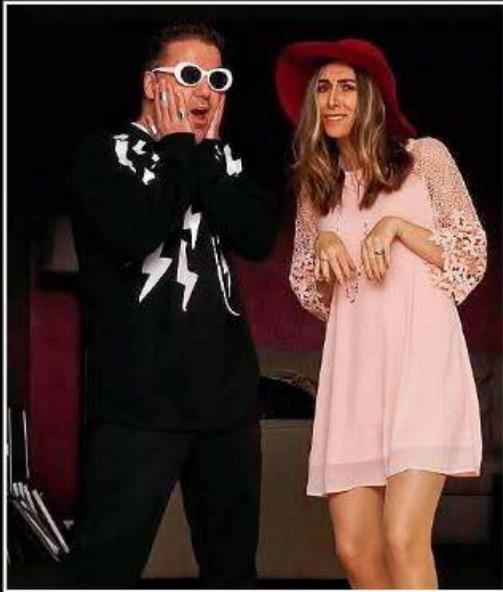
HONOLULU,
HAWAII



ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND



WE GO ALL OUT ON HALLOWEEN!



MUSIC AND LAUGHTER GIVE US LIFE

JULIE'S SIDE



My parents still live in my childhood home only 10 minutes away. They are well connected in the Southeast Denver community having lived there for 50 years. My younger brother, Ryan, his wife, A.J., and our nephews, Theo (3) and Cyrus (1), live in our neighborhood. We spend as much time as possible with our nephews whether it is gathering for family dinners or swimming at our neighborhood swim club. Cyrus' Down Syndrome diagnosis this past year has been a blessing for the family and has gotten us more involved with that community and awareness efforts.

My aunt lives in Lakewood and spends birthdays and holidays with us. My grandma recently turned 101 and lives in central Iowa where my dad is from, but due to the pandemic we have not been able to see her recently except over Zoom. Even though my family is small, they are very close and supportive.





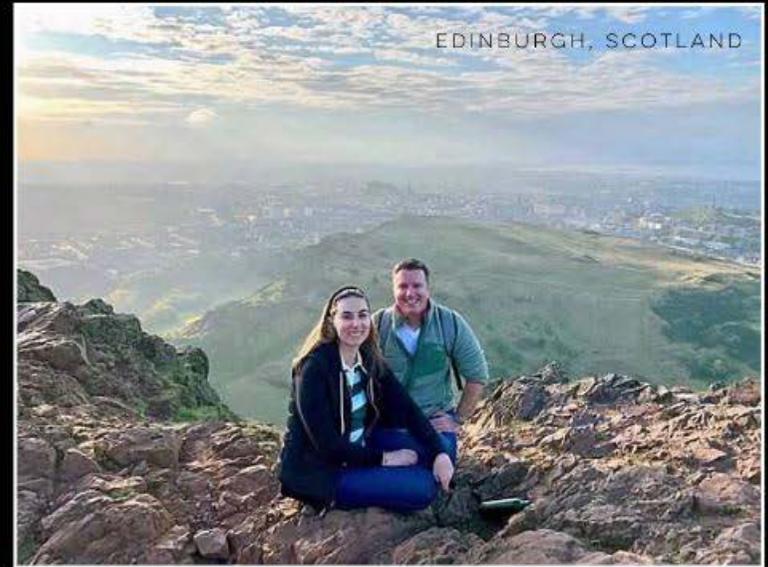
JEFF'S SIDE

I have 2 brothers. My older brother Kevin, was placed for adoption before I was born. I've been so fortunate his family found their way into our lives. We bonded over our shared life experiences, both of us are veterans (I'm USMC and Kevin's Army) and civil servants. Kevin and his wife, Lorene, live in New York. My younger brother Mike is a Fulbright scholar, writer, and world traveler. He's currently living in New Zealand. My mom is only a short ride away, living in Boulder. My dad passed away early in 2022.

Between my parents' siblings, I have 8 aunts and uncles and 11 cousins, spread across the country. They are in the Northeast, Florida, the west coast, and Hawaii. We keep in contact regularly and are always welcome to visit. My aunt, Jami, lives with her husband in Turkey. We have been fortunate to visit Istanbul in the past and are looking forward to traveling to their new home on the Mediterranean where they run an ice cream shop!



OUR COMMUNITY



IN CLOSING

We are truly grateful for your consideration in this monumental decision. Placing your child with us is investing in their future as we will do everything in our power to ensure they are prepared for the life ahead of them. We will be with them when they succeed and also when they stumble along the way. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us.



JEFF AND JULIE



SFLY051114-347