



*Rachel & Ryan*





## *Dear Expectant Parents,*

We can only imagine what you may be going through and we admire your courage in considering adoption. We hope that you feel respected, supported, and loved no matter where you are in your journey and what you decide. We sincerely want what is best for you and your child. Should you choose us, we want you to know that you will always have a place in our hearts and in our family. We appreciate you for taking the time to learn more about us. May you find exactly the loving family you seek.



Our hope is to provide unconditional love, care, and support to a child and provide comfort and peace of mind to expectant parents.



Our Wedding Day 2010



# Our Story



We met in P.E. when Rachel was a freshman and Ryan was a sophomore in high school. We started dating the next year and have been together ever since!

More than 20 years later we have graduated from high school, endured a long distance relationship while attending college, got married, moved 4 times, started successful careers, and had 2 wonderful children. We are a young, active family with more love to give.

Cheering on our #1 football team



Bicycling is our favorite way to spend time together



We love live music!



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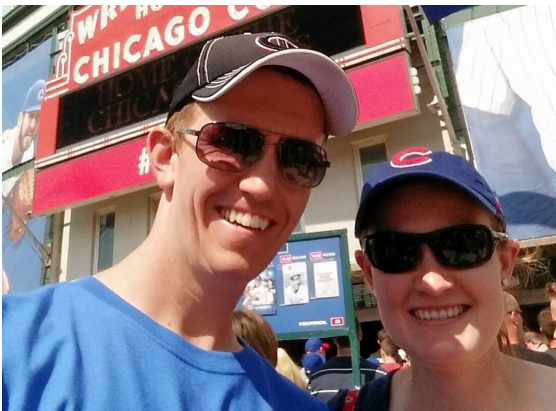
MEET

*Ryan*

Ryan grew up in rural Iowa, the youngest in a family of 3 siblings. He graduated with an associate's degree in industrial electrician and completed an apprenticeship to earn his journeyman electrical license. Ryan has worked for a construction machinery manufacturing company for nearly 10 years as a maintenance electrician.

Ryan is the most hardworking and humble person I have ever known. He works diligently to care for our family and he is always willing to tackle the projects we dream up.

Ryan is caring and generous. He has an amazing instinct to help people using his electrician and woodworking skills.



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Soccer coach Ryan



Bedtime stories



Tree planting  
with the best  
helper



Fun in the snow



Pedicure day



Baseball & Fireworks  
on the 4th



As a dad, Ryan is loving, fun, and devoted to his kids. He has a wonderful imagination and a knack for joining in our kids' vivid pretend world with ease. He reads to them before bed every night. He loves to teach them new things and helps grow their confidence and independence by deeming them his 'apprentices' to complete projects together. He gets involved by coaching soccer and attending school field trips and events. He brings our kids' ideas to life like building a wooden treasure box designed by Andrea. He is our kids' real life hero.



Gardening with Mom



Enjoying the bike path



Fishing at Grandma & Papa's pond



Theme park fun

Field trip to the zoo



As a mom, Rachel is patient, sincere, and caring. She provides a safe, warm environment where her children are comforted to know they can come to her for support and understanding. She strives to set a good example by treating others with respect and being open to differing ideas. She loves to provide opportunities to learn about new topics and explore the outdoors together. Her children are the light of her life and she can not wait to extend that love to another child.

Cirque du Soleil



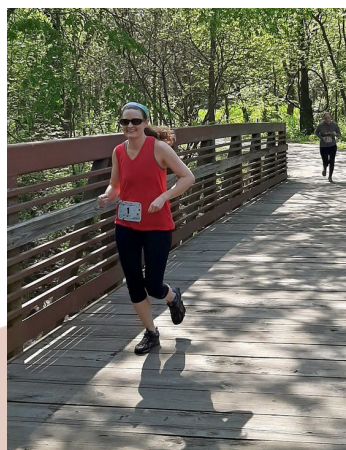


# MEET *Rachel*

Rachel grew up in rural Iowa, the youngest in a family of 3 siblings. She combined her love of science, math, and caring for others to earn a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She has worked for the federal government for more than 10 years as a clinical pharmacist. She is very driven and advocates for the wellbeing of her patients by coaching them to achieve their health goals. Her job affords many benefits including no nights, weekends, or holidays, 16 weeks of maternity leave, generous paid time off, and the ability to work from home. These flexibilities allow her to stay home when children are sick and not to miss milestones like field trips and school events. She enjoys using her creativity and organization skills for planning family vacations and birthday parties.



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# Andrea



Andrea is a natural leader and loves to teach her younger sister all she knows. You can often find her riding her scooter or bicycle, mothering her 'babies,' or reading books. She loves being with friends and keeping busy with extracurricular activities - soccer, ballet and tap, tumbling, swim lessons, Bible & Sunday school, and Girl Scouts. Andrea's favorite vacation was swimming at the beach in Florida. Her favorite places to go include the library, the park, the children's museum, Grandma's house, and school.





# Neela

Neela is a true animal lover. Not surprisingly, her favorite places are the zoo and on nature hikes. Even though she can be strong willed and stubborn, she is also very tender hearted. Neela's favorite saying is 'I love you to the moon.' She has a vivid imagination and is always thinking up new 'missions' to play with her Paw Patrol toys. She picked one of our recent family vacations - she said she always wanted to see a panda so we granted her wish and drove to Memphis Zoo!





# OUR *Home*



We own a spacious home on a half acre lot in a small town in Iowa. The backyard is perfect for a growing family with open space for playing, a playset, and garden. During the winter you can find snowmen and sledding ramps in our front yard. In the summer, our children love playing in sprinklers, with their water table, and picking vegetables from the garden.





# OUR *Community*



We live in a small but vibrant community of 5,000+ people in Iowa. It is a tight knit community with quaint shopping venues, a variety of dining options, numerous parks, green spaces and trails, an aquatic center, and an expansive children's recreational activity program where kids have the opportunity to learn and participate in a variety of different sports and fine arts. Our local school district is well respected with the elementary school located just a few blocks from our home. Our town hosts several fun events throughout year including parades, the county fair, and live music every week during the summer. It is a very safe, family-friendly community located just 30 minutes from a metropolitan area with even more amenities.





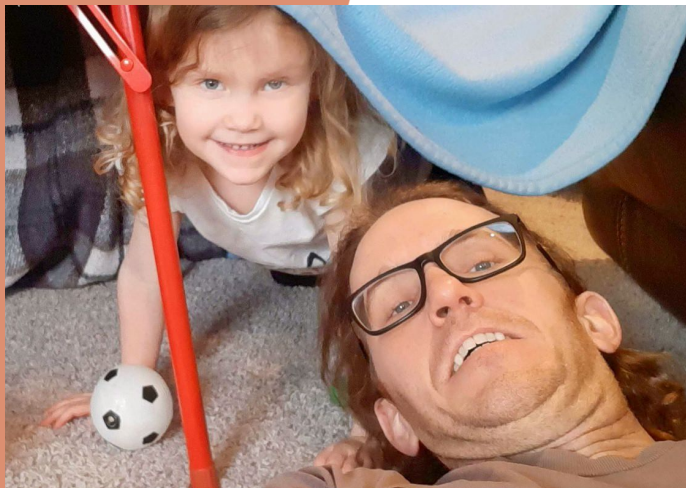
Baking cookies



Puzzle time



Play dough sculpting



Top secret fort



Summer cool down

There is plenty to do when the weather keeps us in. Our children are aspiring puzzle masters so there is almost always a puzzle in progress in our home. We enjoy baking, playing board games, having dance parties, and creating arts and crafts.



Don't Break the Ice!



Kids Fun Run



Planting a thriving garden



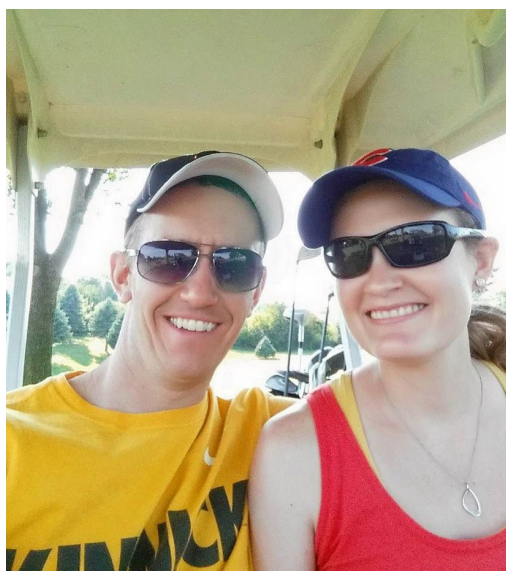
# OUR *Interests*

We are excited to share our love of the outdoors! Ryan enjoys fishing, grilling, and woodworking, including many pieces to benefit his children - their beds, an armoire for their dress up costumes, and doll furniture. Rachel enjoys gardening with her helpers, jogging, and canoeing. Our favorite activity is bicycling and our little ones love to be pulled along with us until they are ready to ride solo!

Beautiful day for  
baseball



Golf outing date day



Floating down the river





## RYAN'S EXTENDED

# Family



Fun with cousins



Ryan's parents have been married for 45 years and are blessed with 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Grandma Barb and Papa Tom live 25 minutes away on a large acreage with a fishing pond and plenty of space to enjoy the outdoors during our annual camping trip. Ryan's middle brother and his family live an hour away but we still see each other regularly as we often gather at Ryan's parents house during hunting season and throughout the year. Ryan's eldest brother and his family live further away so we are able to see them a couple times a year.



Fishing with Papa



Goats on the farm





# RACHEL'S EXTENDED *Family*



Baking with Grandma



Cousin Easter egg hunt

Grandparents  
Day  
at school



Rachel's parents have also been married for 45 years and are blessed with 3 children and 6 grandchildren. They live 20 minutes away and are always asking when they can babysit next. Our children love to visit Grandma MJ and Papa Rick's house and play with all their loveable pets - dogs, cats, a rabbit, and 3 guinea pigs. Rachel's brother and his family live 15 minutes away so we are able to enjoy our nephews' basketball and soccer games and BMX races. Rachel's nephew is adopted. Rachel's sister and her family live an hour away but we still get together regularly.



We love to celebrate birthdays for a full week including a big party with friends and family!



Spring is filled with egg hunts, dying eggs, and Easter church service



Crisp fall days are spent at pumpkin patches, planning perfect Halloween costumes, and playing in the leaves



Christmas time is our favorite - being together, gift giving, baking cookies, and Christmas pageants





# FAMILY *Traditions*

Making cereal garland for the tree



Christmas cookies  
with Papa



Frozen themed Halloween



Being goofy before  
Thanksgiving dinner at  
Grandma's house





# OUR *Adventures*



Red Rocks Park Colorado



Disney World 2022

During her college years, Rachel shared her desire to help others by participating in health care missions for underserved populations in central Mexico and remote villages in Belize. Ryan prefers adventures closer to home - exploring nature and the hidden gems around us. As parents we enjoy discovering new places and sharing our favorite spots with our children! Some of our best road trips have been to visit family members while also experiencing zoos, amusement parks, aquariums, and waterparks. We also splurge on an airplane trip every few years to sunny destinations.



Paw Patrol show



Wisconsin Dells



Memphis Tennessee





Sarasota Florida



Disney on Ice



Alpaca festival



The Alamo



St. Louis Aquarium



The Gateway Arch

Adventureland Park



Blank Park Zoo



Siesta Key Beach





# Faith



Neela's baptism day

We are a Christian family and regularly attend a tight-knit Lutheran church where Rachel teaches Sunday school and Bible school for preschoolers and kindergarten aged members.

We participate in church activities and volunteer for fundraisers. Going to Sunday school is one of Andrea's favorite activities. While we educate our children about the Lutheran faith and Christianity, we acknowledge the importance of each child having the support to explore all religions and choose their own faith.



Children's Christmas pageant



Thank you  
for reading  
OUR book!



NEELA

Andrea::







BEFORE YOU GO,  
*we want you to know*

If you choose us, we commit to:  
unconditionally love your child,  
provide a safe and stable environment for your child,  
honor your child's heritage and culture,  
instill a love for learning in your child,  
provide your child opportunities to try and  
experience new things, and  
support your child – emotionally and financially - in  
pursuing their dreams.

We promise:  
your child will always know how much you love them,  
to speak of you with nothing but love and respect,  
to remember you, and for always be grateful.

With love and gratitude,

*Rachel, Ryan, Andrea, and Neela*



