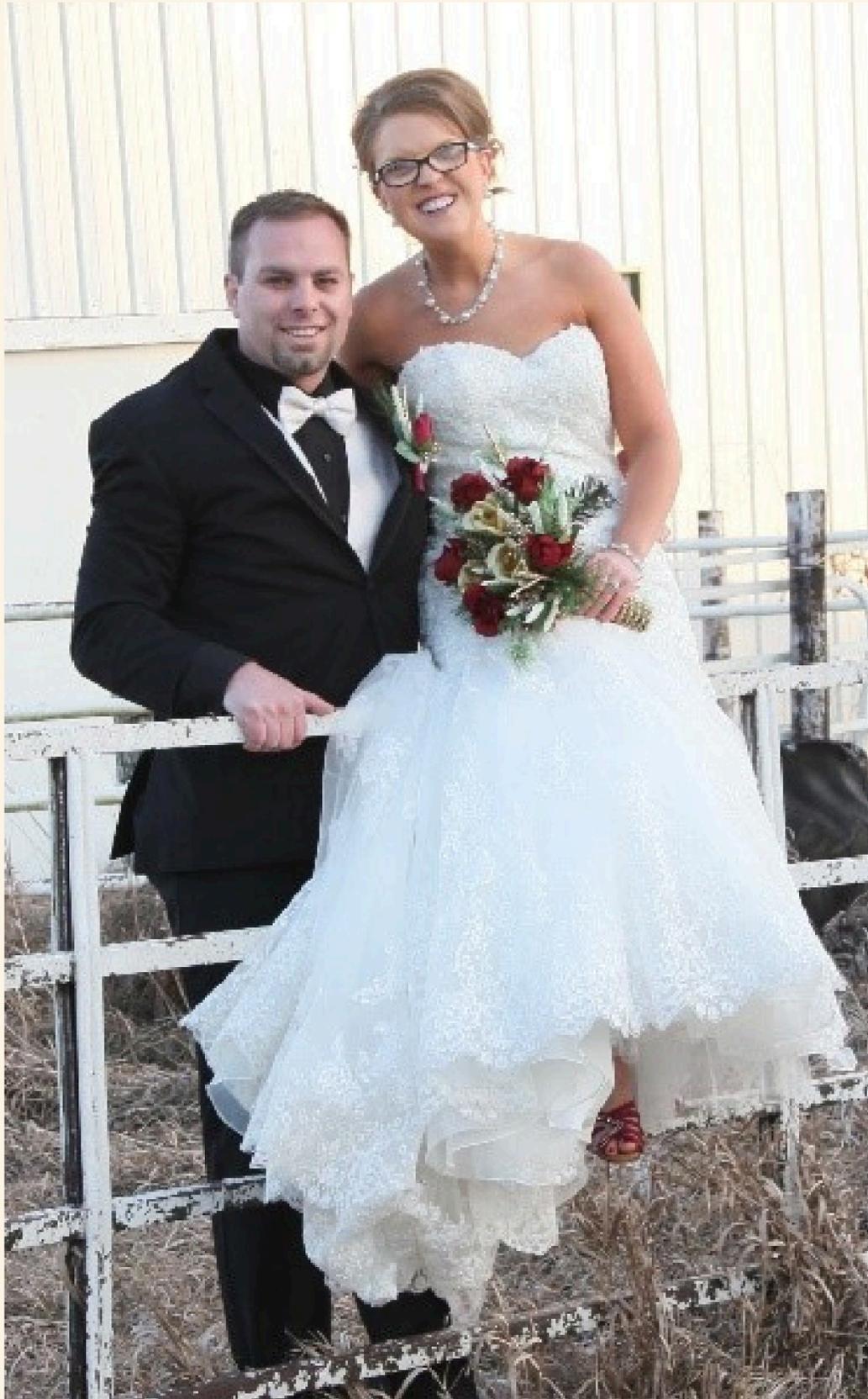




Matt  
&  
Jordan

# OUR STORY:



Jordan and Matt have a true love story, despite Jordan being an hour late for our first date. Jordan's football game went into overtime and when she had informed Matt that she would be late, Matt knew then we were meant to be. Shortly after beginning to date, Jordan began chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer. This complication lead us to grow closer by the day and we learned that we could overcome anything together. After months of chemotherapy, radiation, and a healthy report card, Matt surprised Jordan with a trip to New York City in December. We spent the day touring Time Square, Bryant Park, The Empire State Building and Union Station. After a romantic dinner, we headed to Rockefeller Center for an evening viewing of the Christmas tree. To Jordan's surprise, Matt proposed to her in front of thousands of people, and Jordan's favorite-the beautiful tree. 364 days later, we enjoyed a wonderful wedding in front of 400 of our closest family and friends. Our marriage has been the happiest time of our lives. We pride ourselves in always striving to make each other's dreams come true and we have done this through adopting both of our little girls. We have always dreamt of having a big family so we would love to adopt another child who needs us. We know we have the love, support, and hearts to bring another child into our home and we know 2 little girls who would adore another sibling.

# Our family:







### Our daughters: Lanna and Linni

We have been blessed with two amazing and beautiful little girls whom we have both adopted. We learned of our first daughter just two weeks before her arrival. We quickly learned that with the help of family, that two weeks is in fact, enough time to plan for a newborn! We named Lanna after Jordan's mother who passed away when Jordan was a young child. With Lanna, there were of course challenging times, but we learned that our parenting styles compliment each other by seeing our kids so happy and playful.

15 months after Lanna was born, we had the best surprise phone call; our second daughter, Linni, was born! We learned of Linni the morning she was born and a few hours later we were snuggling her in the hospital praying that she would be ours. With Linni, we did have to go through the Foster Care process, which was eye opening. In the end, though difficult at times, we knew Linni needed us as much as we needed her and would do it all over again.

Our families have been so supportive and helpful with both of our girls before, during, and after the adoption of our kids. We love spending time with all of our family and sharing our strong family values with our girls.

We have learned through our adoption processes, that each child's adoption is different and always an interesting, but rewarding path. We are willing and able to put in the effort and love required of the adoption process and parenting throughout. We are so blessed to have our two daughters and are hoping to continue to grow our family with more brothers and/or sisters.



## What Jordan says about Matt:

Meeting Matt was a prayer that I didn't know would ever be answered. I was going through a difficult time and he was exactly what I didn't know I needed. From the start, he showed me how caring and compassionate he is, and his true personality by helping me get through. Since day one, he has been nothing but affectionate and thoughtful, understanding and patient, and a complete dream come true. He makes me laugh every day and wraps me tight in his arms in tough times. Matt is the most hard-working guy and a true Jack of all trades. He is always willing to step up to the plate to help others. Watching him play with our girls is my favorite part of every day. He never hesitates to get down on the floor with them or take time to play even when he has had a long day. He also continues to be a favorite around our nieces and nephews. Matt is very patient when teaching our kids new skills and values. Matt shows me daily many loving qualities that make him a phenomenal dad and I know his heart has so much love to share with our children.



## **What Matt says about Jordan:**

Loving my wife is the easiest thing I have ever done. She is fearless of any situation, kind to all that cross her path, loving to all that befriend her, selfless to all family with any matters, caring of all in need, teacher to the youth, caretaker to the elderly, and compassionate to all in between. She has made me a better man and I am grateful everyday that she is the rock in my life. I consider myself to be the luckiest man in the world to have her as my wife. Any child that has the pleasure of her as her mother will be the luckiest child on earth. I have no doubt in her abilities as a mother and caretaker. She is the most selfless person, and I am always proud of her.



# OUR FAMILY TRADITIONS

Spending time and having meaningful relationships with our family is extremely important to us. Since our relationship began, it has been crucial to us to involve each other in family events. Years later, we can't imagine not being apart of each other's family traditions. A few of our favorite family traditions include:

- Celebrating our girls' birthdays and "Gotcha Days"
  - Family ski trips every winter
- Cousin playtime with water fights and swimming
- Family celebrations on Easter, including a badminton tournament
  - Mushroom hunting on Mother's Day
  - Homemade ice cream on Father's Day
- Boating, water skiing, wakeboarding, and fishing at the lake
- Football games supporting each other's teams in the fall. Boomer Sooner! Go Big Red!
- For Halloween we enjoy camping at a local state park, competing in a Chili Cookoff, decorating our camper, and Trick-or-Treating with many family and friends.
  - Smoking a turkey at our house for Thanksgiving, followed by a morning of Black Friday shopping and afternoon of Husker football
    - Decorating our house with 4 big Christmas trees for the holidays
      - Touring neighborhoods looking at Christmas lights
        - Decorating Christmas cookies
  - Family scavenger hunts and celebrating Matt's birthday on Christmas, along with multiple family gatherings and Christmas Mass
    - Hosting themed parties for New Year's Eve and Jordan's birthday
  - We love celebrating with family for birthdays, anniversaries, and any excuse to get together



# OUR LIFESTYLE:

We enjoy doing many fun things together as a family and make it a priority in our lives. Our friends and family describe us as adventurous. We love that most of our family is nearby and we can visit each other often. This year we decided to sell what we thought was our “dream home” and buy a farm near Jordan’s sister and her family. We plan to build shortly. We love being close to her and her husband’s 5 kids. Our girls ask daily to see their cousins and we have started new traditions with them like weekend dinners and camping together. We also love when Matt’s brother’s family visits from Montana and we get to have a big family sleepover at Matt’s parents all together. Seeing Lanna and Linni with their cousins is truly the best feeling and satisfaction.

Matt and Jordan love travelling and we love sharing our passion for travel with our daughters. We make sure we expose our children to different cultures around the country and hope to show them the world throughout our travels. A trip for us can be as simple as camping with family a few miles away or as extravagant as spending time at a beach resort.

We love creating memories with our daughters, along with our families and friends. Some of our best memories include hanging out with our childhood and college friends and their families. It is so fun to see our friends build their own families and adding all of the kids to the fun.

We believe it was God’s will that brought us together. We attend church regularly and plan to raise our children in the church. We consider ourselves to be an outgoing, goofy couple who love spending time with our families and friends. We value hard work, high morals, and enjoying the days we are given.

