

*MATT
&
ANNE*



Hello, we're Matt and Anne. We admire your courage in considering adoption for your baby, and we thank you for reading our letter. We have a lot to give a child, and hope you'll enjoy learning more about us.

About Us: We've been together more than 20 years; we got married almost 14 years ago on July 4th, in a hilltop chapel within sight of Anne's childhood home. Together, our "team," as we often call ourselves, has been through good times and plenty of difficult times to build our dreams. ***Our biggest dream is to nurture a child*** -- sharing in the unique closeness of a family, and seeing the wonder of our world through a child's eyes. After we discovered that we couldn't have children, we realized that our dreams could still come true, but in a different way, and that adoption would be a great blessing to us. The process of seeking to become adoptive parents has made our team stronger; we want so much to add a precious new member!



Thoughts on Parenting: As parents, we'll engage a child early on in our love of fun, learning and the outdoors. We can't wait to play dress-up, work in the garden together, read, hike to our local waterfall, and spend lazy weekend mornings just hanging out in our PJ's. Along this journey of discovery, we promise to provide unconditional love, acceptance and support for a child's unique gifts and interests, knowing that they may be different from ours.



We also promise the involvement of a loving, active extended family—eager aunts, uncles, grandparents, and twin four-year-old cousins-to-be can't wait to give a baby countless smiles and hugs.

Most of all, we promise to be open and honest about the special way the three of us - Mom, Dad, and beloved child - became a family.

Our Hobbies and Interests:

We are active and curious, often on the move in our spare time. On vacations, we get out and hike in the Rockies, camp in National Parks, snorkel with friends in Hawaii, and go exploring in other countries, including England, Japan and Korea.

At home, we have a large garden. In the summer especially, we savor our delicious, fresh backyard produce, like strawberries, tomatoes, and



apples. Anne enjoys trying new recipes, as well as sharing old favorites, like her mom's sour cream apple pie and irresistible chocolate chip cookies, with our friends.



Matt loves to ride bicycles. He wakes up early a few times a week to ride with his buddies, and often bike-commutes to work. He also really likes soccer, watching the 49ers, and “Matt-gyvering” household fixes with spare materials.

We often end our busy days by making a pot of herbal tea and snuggling together on the sofa, unwinding and listening to Miles Davis.

Our Educations: Both of our families encouraged our curiosity and sacrificed to support our educations (three of our four parents are teachers) – so, not surprisingly, we have both been to a lot of school! Each of us has a college degree and a Master's (Anne has two). *We will provide a child the kinds of opportunities to thrive in school and to discover outside the classroom that have been so important to us.*



Our Work: Anne has devoted her entire work life to young children. She works as a speech therapist, developing language in young children with disabilities, particularly autism. Previously, she taught and directed in preschool programs for eight years. Throughout her career, Anne has learned as much from children and parents as she has taught them, and *she can't wait to become a full-time mom.*

Matt has a busy job with lots of responsibility, leading a team of thirty staff overseeing the finances of a major university. The university provides great benefits and permits flexible schedules; Matt plans to work with flexible hours when a baby comes.

Our Finances and Home:

We are comfortably upper-middle class, and are careful with our money.

Experiences matter more to us than things, so we spend money on travelling to

beautiful places, sharing special times with family and friends, or going to hear live music, rather than acquiring lots of stuff. We have already begun saving to fund a child's education and other dreams. But we won't let this child be the weird one without the "cool" jeans or shoes, or whatever—we both lived through that in our own childhoods!



We own our three-bedroom home, which we remodeled a few years ago to make it welcoming, comfortable and safe for a little person. The nursery is ready and waiting, with family heirloom artwork and toys eager for a new friend to arrive.

We live in a diverse hillside neighborhood near Pasadena, California, with friendly, kind neighbors. We often enjoy sunset views of golden light on the nearby mountains during evening walks, passing by our local park, with its new play structures and grassy fields. On weekends, we can take off for mountain hikes right from the house, too.

On Spirituality: We both believe in a loving God. Anne currently attends a progressive Episcopal church. Through reading favorite authors, staying close to the natural world, and talking to each other and



friends, our spirituality focuses on how a power greater than ourselves can promote kindness and understanding of the value of all people and the world around us.

Appearance: Our pictures should give you an idea, but here are the basics – Anne is 5’ 10”, Matt is 5’ 8”. Both of us have blue eyes and medium builds. Anne is 42,

Matt is 41. (Yes, Anne is taller and older, and Matt is fine with that—even when she wears heels!) We’re both nonsmokers, and in good health.

In Closing: Thanks again for taking the time to learn more about our loving, stable family. ***Our hearts and home are open to welcome and nurture a young life.*** We wish you continued strength and courage as you make your decision.

If you would like more information or would like to get in touch with us, please contact our attorney, Douglas Donnelly, at **1-800-350-5683** or email **doug@adoptionlawfirm.com**.