BUILDING OUR FAMILY



Dessim derel

ABOUT US

We met almost five years ago, and there has not been a day or night that we have not either spoken or been together since then. Jerel's sister brought us together by saying, "You are the same people, just male and female versions of each other." While we do enjoy many of the same activities, we are also very different in the best of ways. Jessica is a veterinarian who likes to plan and be very organized. Jerel, who recently started his own handyman business, is laid back and takes things as they come. We have found our differences just make us that much stronger as a couple, the best of both worlds. We enjoy a variety of activities, such as gardening, working in our yard, and making our newly purchased home into our forever home. For fun, we enjoy visiting local farmers markets, going to the theater, walking with our dogs, and target shooting.

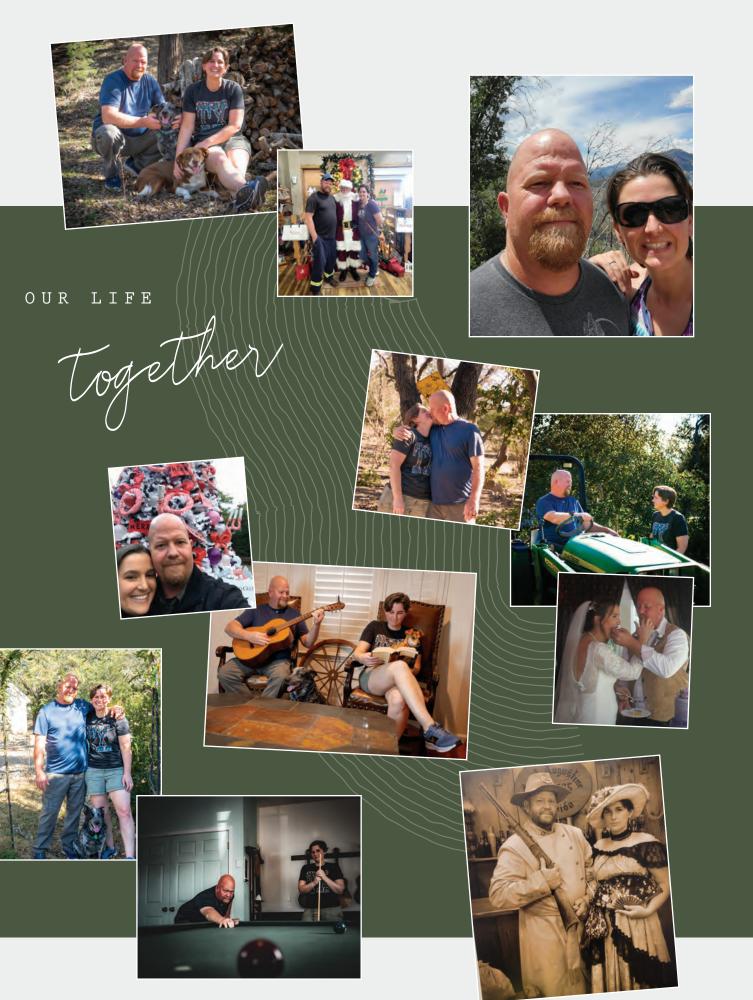
OUR HOME + PETS

We live in a small town just outside a large city. We are located near dozens of schools, including two high schools of choice; schools in our county are known for their academics, fine arts and athletic programs. We love our neighborhood because of its small town feel but also because it is just a short drive from all the conveniences of a large city. That puts us close to restaurants, theaters, museums, hospitals, parks, and walking trails. The walking trails are especially nice as we enjoy taking our dogs, Trip and Blue, with us. They particularly enjoy it when the trails go along the river and they get to jump in for a quick swim. Trip is in the process of getting therapy dog certified so he can go to schools and hospitals to help with different therapies and get belly rubs.



WHAT LED US TO ADOPTION

We have battled with infertility for the past three years. Throughout the roller coaster of emotions, we always considered adoption. After a miscarriage, we realized, "How many more signs do you need?!" It was at that time that we decided to delve further into adoption and explore it as the way to build our family. Since then, we have researched, read, and even attended classes about adoption. The amount of information we have gathered and all the concepts we have learned have just convinced us more that adoption is the way to go.



MORE ABOUT





OCCUPATION: Veterinarian

EDUCATION: DVM

RACE: Caucasian

RELIGION: Catholic

SPORT: Football

FOOD: Mom's spaghetti

HOBBY: Hiking/walking

FAMILY TRADITION: Summer camping trips

MUSICAL GROUP: Phil Vassar MOVIE: Star Wars: A New Hope

DREAM VACATION: Tropical island

HOLIDAY: Christmas

TV SHOW: Bones

SUBJECT IN SCHOOL: Biology

BOOK: The Host



MORE ABOUT

MUSICAL GROUP: Luke Combs

MOVIE: Tombstone

DREAM VACATION: Scotland

HOLIDAY: Christmas
TV SHOW: NCIS

SUBJECT IN SCHOOL: Woodshop

BOOK: Under the Dome

OCCUPATION: Handyman/business owner

EDUCATION: High school diploma

RACE: Caucasian

RELIGION: Methodist

SPORT: Football

FOOD: Chicken fried steak

HOBBY: Gunsmithing

FAMILY TRADITION: Summer camping trips

our family

AND

traditions

We live a few short hours from Jerel's large family. Holidays are always a blast with all the siblings, nieces, nephews, cousins, and family friends who pack into his mother's house. A few of Jerel's nephews have children of their own who would only be a year or two older than our child, and we can only imagine how close they will be growing up together. Jerel's mother and aunt frequently come visit our house as they love the garden and pool we have.

Jessica's family is much smaller, and while it requires a plane trip to see them, it is an excuse to go to sunny California. Jessica's mother lives close to the beach, and we go on family camping trips to Kings Canyon National Park almost every summer. Jessica's mother is a soon-to-be-retired middle school history teacher. She is very excited to be able to come out to Texas for long visits. Our entire family and close friends are so supportive of us adopting. They are all just as excited as we are.



dear

EXPECTANT MOTHER,

We can only imagine what you are going through right now. We cannot even fathom the choice you are having to make. The responsibility and confidence you are showing now just goes to show what a truly amazing person you are. While we are sure you are still feeling doubts, know this: With us, your child will want for nothing, your child will feel love every minute of every day with us, and there is nothing we would not do for your child. We are going to be completely honest with your child about adoption from the first moment possible. Your child will know you loved them and that you made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure they have the best life possible.

Our goal in raising a child is to give them the best life and upbringing possible. We plan on doing that by giving them unique experiences and opportunities rather than material things, although they will never want for anything material all the same. We will make sure your child gets into the best schools and give them all the support they need. We plan on reading to your child every night until it comes time for them to read to us. We plan on going to musicals, concerts, and plays on weekends and national parks on vacations. We will take trips over the entire United States for them to see their family. We will do everything we can to give your child the fullest life possible.



