

# MARICEL

MY JOURNEY TO ADOPTION



[www.lifelongadoptions.com](http://www.lifelongadoptions.com)

## ABOUT ME

"I want to be a pilot!" This is what I answered my mom when she asked me what I wanted to do one day when I was seven years old. Instead, I grew up and became a doctor then specialized in obstetrics and gynecology. When I moved to the States, I studied to become a doctor of physical therapy. As the eldest child, I'm responsible, hardworking, and independent. To my friends, I'm loyal, caring, and trustworthy, making me a godmother of 15 young adults and kids. Traveling is one of my passions. I have traveled to 30 states and 20 countries. I like the outdoors and sports. I stay active with regular exercise: yoga, running, and dancing. Recently I'm learning how to meditate. As a healthcare professional, I'm used to helping people. I stay grounded by volunteering, joining medical missions, and sponsoring an orphanage in the Philippines.



## MY HOME & PETS

My aunt and I live in a suburb that is considered to be one of the best places to live in Illinois. Our two-story, four-bedroom house has a big, fenced-in backyard; it needs a child running and playing around in it. Our neighborhood is family friendly, quiet, safe, and diverse. We have highly rated schools, an excellent public library, and a park district that offers a variety of activities for kids and adults. Our community has a lot to offer: a local ice skating rink, several fishing spots, scenic lakes and trails, proximity to the city and downtown, a popular mall, an aviation museum, and access to numerous recreational facilities.

## WHAT LED ME TO ADOPTION

When I was 18 years old, I read a magazine and saw a picture of a baby looking like an angel with big eyes, a perky nose, and a toothless grin innocently staring at me. I tore it out, framed it, and placed it on top of my bedside drawer. It's been with me ever since. A promise I made myself was if I couldn't have a child biologically, I was okay with that because I knew I wanted to adopt. I have an aunt and cousin who adopted. It's heartwarming to see how their children bring a twinkle to their eyes. I've known adoption was always going to be a part of my path.



MY  
PHOTOS



## MORE ABOUT



# MARICEL

**OCCUPATION:** Physical Therapist

**EDUCATION:** Doctor of Physical Therapy,  
Doctor of Medicine

**RACE:** Asian

**RELIGION:** Catholic

## ♥ MY FAVORITE...

**SPORT:** Tennis, swimming, volleyball

**FOOD:** Thai, Korean, anything pistachio flavored

**HOBBY:** Traveling, baking, running

**MUSICAL GROUP:** Ingrid Michaelson, Alanis  
Morissette, Lauren Daigle

**MOVIE:** *My Best Friend's Wedding*, *Pride and  
Prejudice*, *The Parent Trap*

**DREAM VACATION:** Italy, Switzerland, Maldives

**HOLIDAY:** Decorating the Christmas Tree

**TV SHOW:** *Friends*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Survivor*

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** Anatomy, chemistry

**BOOK:** *Man, Woman and Child*

# MY FAMILY & TRADITIONS

I was born into a big family as both of my parents have nine siblings! I have two brothers, a younger sister, and my two-year-old nephew. Even though I live in the States, I have constant communication with my parents and two brothers, who still live in the Philippines, through messages and video calls. My sister lives in Texas, working as an E.R. nurse; we visit each other throughout the year. She's very excited to be an aunt and a playmate to my future child.

I am fortunate to be living with my aunt. She's providing me with support and wisdom during my adoption journey. She's been waiting for me to have a baby. I have aunts, uncles, and cousins living on the East Coast. We are a very tight-knit family, and distance doesn't prevent us from spending time with each other. One favorite thing we do when we visit my aunt in Boston during Thanksgiving is walk along the beach near her house after feasting on lobsters then go for sweets in a local chocolate shop.

I am blessed to have friends I consider family. These friends have been my rock during trying times, and together with my family, they are my greatest cheerleaders and supporters.



# DEAR EXPECTANT MOTHER



*I wish I could send you a big hug to ease the worry you might be feeling right now. Your decision to do something that may frighten you defines courage. What I am about to say here, I hope will help relieve the pain, remove some fear and bring you hope that nothing will be lost. I believe everyone has a purpose in life and that there is such a thing called connection. I also believe there's a reason why you would consider me to take care of your baby. My journey with adoption is full of fear and worry, but the calling and desire to be a mother to a child is so strong that eventually I felt I can do anything and will do everything to become a mother.*

*If chosen, this is my vow to you: I will provide your child the best education, introduce them to the beauty of travel, guide, lead, and help your child to be the best version of themselves. I will make sure they will grow to be a good, respectful, and successful person. Your child will be nurtured by my family and friends, who are all eager and excited for me to have a baby. Most of all, I will love your child unconditionally with all my heart. Your child will know what you sacrificed for them and how your love brought us all together. I would be forever grateful for you giving me my greatest blessing. Thank you for considering me!*

*With love and prayers,*

MARICEL



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