

Michael & Holly

OUR ADOPTION JOURNEY



www.lifelongadoptions.com



ABOUT US

Mike heads up the finance team at a consulting firm where he enjoys traveling, learning, and working with great coworkers. Mike is a great procrastinator but once he decides something needs to be done, it happens immediately. Mike enjoys caring for our dogs, soccer, and projects around our house. He finished graduate school in May and is enjoying the extra time seeing friends and family. At first glance, he's quite serious, but he brings a witty sense of humor and a loyalty that will make him a great father. Holly owns a small business; she's run a neighborhood Pilates studio for almost fifteen years. Holly opened her studio during the recession of 2009, and it's only through her passion and determination that the studio is what it is today: a staple of the neighborhood that employs six wonderful teachers. As the studio has grown, Holly has reduced her teaching schedule and reconnected with her other passions (triathlons, gardening, and time with family and friends).

OUR HOME & PETS

We're fortunate to live in a quiet neighborhood at the end of a cul-de-sac, close to parks, friends, and neighborhood restaurants. It's a unique neighborhood in the middle of a busy city. Our neighborhood has lots of young families as well as shops and restaurants to walk to and parks to play at. In the summers, we all gather in our courtyard to let the kids play water games, draw with sidewalk chalk, and generally just run around. Fortunately we are in a very good school district with an elementary school within walking distance from our house. We have two very old, very small dogs (17 and 15) that we find a lot of happiness in caring for.

WHAT LED US TO ADOPTION

After seven years of unsuccessful fertility treatments, we took time to evaluate what we want our future as a family to look like. We still could not imagine life without children, so we began looking into adoption. The day we spoke to LifeLong Adoptions, we both felt a sense of relief knowing we had found an organization that would help us build our future family. Knowing there is a light at the end of the tunnel has been really exciting for us. We would love to have a child to take on our adventures with us and show them the world. While we've created our own little family, this will be the missing piece.

our photos





Holly

Occupation: Pilates studio owner

Education: Bachelor's degree in business

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Methodist

MY FAVORITE...

Sport: Biking, running, kayaking

Food: Burgers + fries

Hobby: Reading, sports, dogs

Tradition: Family get-togethers to see the kids

Musical Group: Dave Matthews Band

Movie: *The Lord of the Rings*

Dream Vacation: Anywhere with mountains

Holiday: Thanksgiving

TV Show: *Game of Thrones*

Subject in School: History

Book: *The Great Circle*

Michael

Occupation: Senior Director of Finance

Education: Master's degree in accounting

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Catholic

MY FAVORITE...

Sport: Soccer, swimming, bowling, Peloton

Food: Deep dish pizza

Hobby: Collecting soccer jerseys, being outdoors

Tradition: Christmas Eve with Santa and cousins

Musical Group: Pearl Jam

Movie: *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*

Dream Vacation: Alaska

Holiday: 4th of July

TV Show: *The Wire*

Subject in School: Math

Book: *King Leopold's Ghost*

OUR FAMILY & traditions



We both come from large families. Holly is one of four siblings, and we have seven wonderful and unique nieces and nephews who all live within an hour's drive. Family holidays and birthdays have become a tradition at Holly's parents' house. The kids love playing together, and the adults love catching up. The joy the kids get from seeing each other is one of the best things about our family.

Mike has two younger sisters. Both sides of his family are very large, with too many cousins, aunts, and uncles to count. The majority of them live close by, and we see them all a few times per year. COVID strangely made us closer because we set up a Sunday Zoom call, which has carried through to today and is a great way to keep in touch with the faraway family members.

DEAR
*expectant
mother*



We know you face an impossible decision as you try to give your child the life you dream of for them. We want to acknowledge the great loss you may feel in choosing adoption for your child. It will likely be one of the most difficult decisions of your life, and we would like to support you throughout this time. While there will most certainly be sadness, we hope you can also feel happiness, relief, and hope for your child's future. They will always feel the unwavering love we and our families will have for them.

We are willing and hope we can work together through this life decision to make you feel as comfortable with this choice as we do. When we came across LifeLong Adoptions, we felt that after years of trying, we would finally be able to create a family with the help of a mother like you.

In acknowledging the difficult choices ahead, we hope that it gives you comfort to know we cannot reach our dreams of having our own family without you. As an instrumental part of our journey to becoming parents, we will be forever grateful to you and your family for helping us create ours.

Sincerely,

Michael & Holly



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