SAMANTHA and BRIAN





hello!

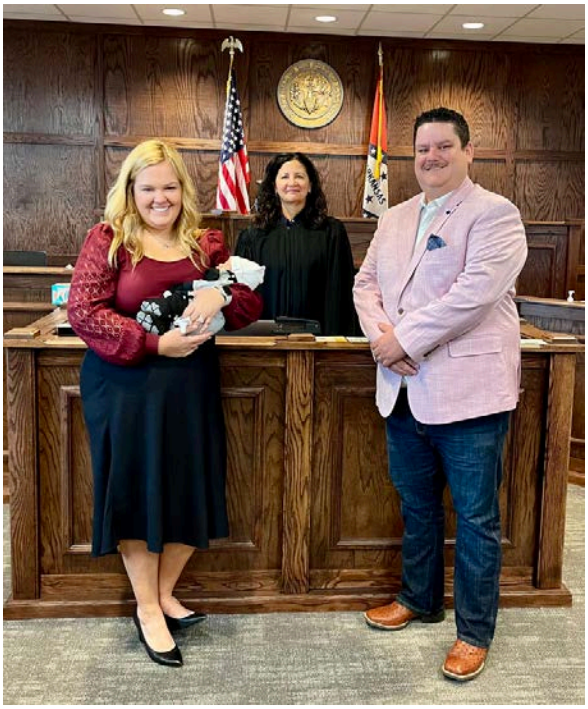
WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE! WE HOPE THIS PROFILE GIVES YOU A GENUINE PICTURE OF OUR FAMILY AND THE LOVING HOME WE WOULD BE HONORED TO SHARE WITH ANOTHER CHILD.

While we won't ever be able to put ourselves in your shoes, we have witnessed the complexities of this journey and know you are likely feeling many different emotions.

We recognize each journey is unique, and we have tremendous respect for the love, strength, and thoughtfulness that goes into considering adoption.

We believe it is a huge honor and privilege to become adoptive parents, and we hope this profile gives you an idea of who we are now and will be after another child joins our family. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our story and would be honored to learn yours.







why adoption

We've both had a deep desire to become parents for our entire adult lives. A year after we were married, we were ready to begin building our family. As we started our journey we were dealt with a difficult diagnosis of infertility. At that time, we started to consider adoption while simultaneously beginning treatment for infertility. During our treatment, we kept the idea of adoption in our hearts knowing if that's what was meant to be, God would lead us in that direction. After five years of struggling, we were confident that adoption was the way we were meant to build our family.

IN EARLY 2025, WE ADOPTED OUR SON, MATEO, AND HE IS THE LIGHT OF OUR LIVES

Becoming his parents has been a dream come true and we know he will be the best big brother. **We feel so blessed to have the love and support of our family and friends in this journey and can't wait until our family grows again by one**.



our story

BEGAN IN A TYPICAL, YOUNGER MILLENNIAL DATING STYLE. WE MET ON THE WIDELY KNOWN DATING APP, TINDER.



I know what you're thinking, no one has actually met their spouse on Tinder! Well now you know one major success story. **Brian was 27 and Sam was 25 when we both swiped right on each other's profiles not knowing a lifetime of happiness was at our fingertips.** At the time, we were able to see friends in common on the app and we both were friends with someone Brian played recreational volleyball with, and Sam worked with. When our mutual friend was able to assure both of us that we would be a great match, we went on our first date. As it turns out, we had gone to high schools only a few miles from each other and had major family connections neither of us were aware of. It was hard to believe we hadn't crossed paths before! Eleven years later, we're still 'swiping right' and choosing each other every day.





MEET Samantha

FAVORITE MOVIE: Forrest Gump
FAVORITE HOLIDAY: Christmas
HOBBIES/SPARE TIME: Baking, reading, traveling, and attending/watching the games of my favorite sports teams
FAVORITE FOOD: Pizza
DREAM VACATION: Greece

FUN FACTS ABOUT SAM

- **My favorite hobbies are baking and reading when I get the chance.** I have two world-famous cookie recipes—a chocolate chip and an oatmeal chocolate chip—that are requested at almost every family or friend function.

- **I am a big sports fan, too!** I love that we have so many teams in our hometown and never pass up an opportunity to go to a game.

- **I love to travel and am definitely a beach bum at heart.** My favorite trip so far was our honeymoon in Cancun. It was my first time at an all-inclusive resort, and it was one of the happiest times in our lives as newlyweds.

Samantha

THRU BRIAN'S EYES

"SAM IS MY BEST FRIEND AND THE PERSON WHO KEEPS OUR FAMILY GOING."

She is always putting other people first and is the first one to support me when I need her. **She's the glue that holds us together, and I don't know what we'd do without her.** Watching her with Mateo is one of my favorite things. She is his safe place, biggest cheerleader, and loves him with everything she has. She's patient, understanding and the kind of person who makes everyone around her feel cared for.









MEET Brian

FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM: Dallas Cowboys
FAVORITE HOLIDAY: Halloween
HOBBIES/SPARE TIME: Golfing, softball, grilling, and attending/watching the games of my favorite sports teams
FAVORITE FOOD: Pizza
FAVORITE TYPE OF MUSIC: Country

FUN FACTS ABOUT BRIAN

- **I love sports in all aspects.** I spend my downtime playing golf or softball with friends, and if I'm at home, I am watching whatever sporting event I can find on TV. My favorite teams are the Dallas Cowboys, St. Louis Cardinals & Blues, and the Mizzou Tigers.

- **I am a world-class Blackstone and grill master.** My specialties include smash burgers, chicken fried rice, and Philly cheesesteaks. I definitely take my grilling seriously!

- **I love to travel and am always up for a beach trip.** Cancun holds a special place in my heart since it was where we celebrated our honeymoon and got to enjoy some of our favorite memories as newlyweds.







Brian

THRU SAMANTHA'S EYES

"BRIAN HAS AN INFECTIOUS PERSONALITY AND A LOVING SPIRIT."

He has never met a stranger and has a talent for making every person he meets feel special. **He is such a hands-on Dad with our son whether they're playing outside or splashing through bath time, he never misses a moment.** He's not one for sitting still and is always up for whatever adventures we have planned for the day. I couldn't have hand picked a better partner or spouse to go through this crazy journey of life with.



MEET OUR SON, *Mateo*

Mateo

IS OUR FAVORITE PERSON

He will be 2 in February, and he keeps us on our toes every day. He loves to play outside, go swimming, hang with his dog brothers, read books and play with his toys. His favorite saying is "bye bye" because he is always so excited to get out and explore the world with us. Mateo can be a bit shy with strangers to start but once he warms up, he is quite the charmer. It's hard not to fall in love with the little guy! We know he will be the best big brother after seeing him love on his younger cousin and play with fellow daycare kids. **He will be so excited to teach his sibling all about climbing in & on forts, sliding down slides, throwing his dog's tennis balls, and tasting his favorite foods!**









Welcome
TO OUR HOME



A few years ago, we moved to a highly sought after, tree-lined neighborhood into a 3-bedroom ranch style home. We live on ¾ of an acre which makes for a fantastic backyard for kids and dogs alike to play. **We love to host family & friends in our large living area, which includes a second, smaller living room that is now a playroom.**

Our neighborhood is really the place to be. It's most beautiful after a fresh snow or in the fall with different colored leaves on the trees. There are neighborhood hosted events such as an Easter egg hunt, ice cream socials, fall festivals and even visits from Santa which attract families with kids of all ages. The school district for the neighborhood is consistently rated as one of the top districts in our town. They've just recently built a brand-new high school, and we can see the school bus stop from our front window.

The area surrounding our neighborhood includes walking trails, playgrounds, and community swimming pools **but the most exciting family attraction is what can most closely be considered a small zoo.** Attractions include taking tram rides through the park grounds to see animals such as deer, longhorn cattle, llamas, zebras and so much more up close. Other hands-on activities include bottle feeding baby goats, riding camels and carousel rides. We live so close to this attraction, we walk there!





MEET OUR DOGS
Remy & Yeti





We have two dogs, a 9-year-old golden retriever named Remy and a 7-year-old yellow lab named Yeti. We love these sweet boys so much, they were our first babies. We enjoy taking them for walks in our neighborhood regularly, hitting a tennis ball in the backyard for them to retrieve and going on adventures to our parents' houses or even for an ice cream treat. **They both love their little human brother and obsessed isn't a strong enough word to describe how much Mateo loves them.** One of his first words was Yeti, and now every dog he meets is Yeti, ha!





Family life AND adventures

We enjoy visiting the zoo, exploring parks and playgrounds, going apple picking, or simply eating dinner together every night. **Our backyard is full of fun adventures for Mateo between playing with bubbles, swimming in his inflatable pool, and riding his balance bike on the patio.** Our weekends almost always include at least one special activity, but we also cherish relaxing together at home and enjoying the simple moments as a family.

"WE LOVE FILLING OUR LIFE TOGETHER WITH ADVENTURES."



Travel is another passion we share, both as a family and with our extended families. Every other year, Sam's family gathers in the same beach town in Florida for a week-long reunion. What began as a small family tradition has grown to include more than 50 relatives, making it a truly special time to reconnect and celebrate together. We also take an annual vacation with Brian's family, most recently spending a wonderful week in Fort Myers, Florida. **These trips allow us to strengthen family bonds, create lasting memories, and enjoy quality time with the people we love most.**













Holidays

Holidays could be considered an Olympic sport in our families Our families are so close-knit and all live in town, so we celebrate each holiday with them.

CHRISTMAS HAS TO BE THE CROWN JEWEL. BETWEEN ALL THE DECORATING INSIDE BY SAM AND THE OUTSIDE LIGHTS & INFLATABLES BY BRIAN, WE MIGHT AS WELL LIVE AT THE NORTH POLE.

December is always packed with activities like cookie baking, seeing multiple Christmas light displays, hosting extended family and friend Christmas parties, I could go on and on. **We also host Thanksgiving for Sam's family and Brian's family is famous for their fried turkey.** Other favorite holidays include Easter, 4th of July, and Halloween. Our neighborhood is the best for trick or treating, easter egg hunts, and tons of firework displays for us to see.



OUR Families



One of the first things that bonded us when dating was that we both prioritized the importance of our families. Both families live in neighboring suburbs, and we see them quite frequently.

Some of our favorite things to do with Sam's family are to take a quick weekend trip out of town, celebrate each family member's birthday with a homemade dinner at her parents or even something as simple as a game night. Samantha's extended family celebrates "Sequence" (our favorite board game) tournaments, and we travel to the same city in Florida every other year for a week. We're up to 50 people and we can't wait to add one more!









With Brian's family, we enjoy trips to a family favorite farmer's market, relaxing at the local lake where Brian's parents live and having family barbeques. Brian's extended family is just as enormous as Sam's. Their most memorable tradition is getting together to make their family recipe made-from-scratch tamales. **It's a special way to celebrate their Hispanic heritage.**

WE ARE SO BLESSED THAT BOTH FAMILIES HAVE BEEN SO SUPPORTIVE ON OUR JOURNEY AND CAN'T WAIT TO LOVE ON ANOTHER GRANDCHILD, NIECE, NEPHEW, OR COUSIN.

OUR *Friends*



WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE SEVERAL INCREDIBLE GROUPS OF FRIENDS WHO HAVE BECOME AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR LIVES.

The friendships we've built over the years have brought us countless memories, and we genuinely enjoy spending time together whenever we can. **Whether it's gathering for a pool party, a day of pumpkin picking in the fall, bowling in the winter, hosting a backyard barbecue, attending baby & wedding showers, or taking a spontaneous weekend trip out of town, there is never a shortage of opportunities to connect and have fun**. Many of our weekends revolve around spending time with these friends, sharing meals, celebrating milestones, and simply enjoying each other's company. As our families have grown, it has been especially meaningful to watch our children build friendships of their own and create memories alongside the people we care about most. These relationships bring so much joy, laughter, and support to our lives, and we are grateful for the strong community of friends that surround us.



















OUR PROMISE *to you*

We have many hopes for a future child. We hope they are happy, safe, secure, and above all else, loved beyond measure. **We promise** to foster an environment where a child feels all of these things by providing a safe home and neighborhood, continuing to work in jobs we love to provide a secure future, and finding activities they are interested in that bring them happiness. **Most importantly, we will remind them** each and every day how loved they are and how thankful we are that they are part of our family. **We will encourage them** to be respectful, love equally, accept differences, honor God, and be the change they wish to see in the world.

Our future child will not only feel our love but also the love of our family and close friends. We are incredibly close with our families, both in relationship and in distance, and they cannot wait to add another member to the family for holiday celebrations, pool parties, vacations, and everything in between. Our close friends are more like family and, similarly, cannot wait to add another to the crew. Needless to say, we have an incredible support system, and so will our future child.

We know we will never truly understand the difficult journey this must be, but please know there will never be a day when your child isn't reminded how loved and cared for they are, and especially how loved they were throughout this journey.

"WE ARE ALSO EXCITED TO CONTINUE THIS JOURNEY WITH YOU BY sharing milestones and daily activities THROUGH PHOTOS, LETTERS, AND EMAILS, IF THAT IS SOMETHING YOU DESIRE."





Thank you!

We want to thank you for so many things. **Thank you for being brave, for being strong, and for considering adoption. Thank you for taking the time to read our profile and this letter.** While we will never fully be able to understand what it feels like to be in your shoes in this moment, we want to find a way to express our gratitude that you're here and open to hearing our story.

It's only fitting to end this note with a final thank you. We appreciate you for being you and for taking the time to get to know our family. We wish you the very best today and all the days ahead, and we hope you know how much we admire the strength and love that brought you here.