

Dear Expectant Parents,

We are **Doug and Tina** and we are so thankful that you are considering adoption, and for thinking of us as possible adoptive parents. Though we cannot begin to know all that you may be going through right now, we truly appreciate the tremendous love and courage it takes for you to travel down the journey of adoption. We hope that sharing with you how excited we are to provide a safe, loving and supportive home for your child will help you with your decision. We are so honored to be a part of this incredibly personal decision and are so excited about the prospect of welcoming a child into our family. Not only is it the child we are welcoming into our hearts, but you as well, through an **open adoption**.



Doug & Tina, Belize 2014



About us: We met during college at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville while taking some of the same classes. We both graduated in 2003 with the same major in Geography/Geographic Information Systems (GIS). We dated for over 3 years before getting married, but we always knew that we were meant for each other. We have been happily married since 2006. We both have stable, rewarding careers in GIS, supporting the Department of Defense. We have a strong family support system all across the area in both Missouri and Illinois. **Doug** is from South County in Saint Louis, while **Tina** grew up in Collinsville, Illinois. We currently live in Edwardsville, Illinois; a growing city, with a small town feel. Edwardsville also boasts one of the best school districts in the Metro-East and the

whole state of Illinois. Also, we live on a large lake in a newly constructed home among both older and younger families, with many family activities to be enjoyed around the lake.

We were both raised as Catholic; **Tina** in Collinsville and **Doug** in Saint Louis and other states. Faith remains a constant part of our lives together. We hope to raise a child with exposure to our beliefs, but one who will also feel free to explore faith and **Christ** in their own way. We are both active people and frequently enjoy working out, running, biking, hiking, traveling the world, playing with our dogs **Myla and Elfi**, and enjoying the entire outdoors that both Missouri and Illinois offer.



We have had no success in conceiving a child of our own. We have tried for over 4 years, and have limited hope that we will eventually be able to. We know that the time is right to grow our family, and are fully committed to adoption and raising a child as our own. In the future, if we are able to conceive and have a child naturally, it will be treated no differently than our adopted child. We both were raised in loving, supportive families and are committed to having that same loving, supportive environment in ours.



It feels like "thank you" isn't nearly enough for this incredibly tough decision you are making. **The gift of adoption is the ultimate act of profound love and selflessness.** We promise that your baby will be loved, protected, celebrated and will be surrounded by family, friends, and a community who will always celebrate them and love them... unconditionally!

Doug & Tina