

Hello!

We are Ryan, Andrea, Cooper, and Meg (our dog). We (Ryan and Andrea) have been married for thirteen years and together for twenty (yes, we are in fact high school sweethearts). Meg the Pug joined the clan in 2016 and our son, Cooper, was born the next year.



Ryan and I were both born and raised in southern Illinois, but have lived in California, Maryland, and northern Illinois over the last decade. While we very much so enjoyed the opportunity to experience new people and places, we were thankful to have the opportunity to permanently return to southern Illinois around the time our son was born. Cooper is very fortunate to be raised close to grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and even great-grand parents - all with whom we love spending time. There is no doubt that a baby born into our family is loved and cherished by many.

Our day-to-day life is pretty consistent. Ryan has worked in law enforcement since 2005. He started as a local police officer and is now a federal agent. I began my career as a high school teacher/coach and am currently a school counselor for an online school. While I loved working in the brick-and-mortar school setting, I really enjoy the flexibility working from home affords us with a young child and hopefully future children.

Our spare time is almost always spent together. Cooper loves to explore, so we spend a lot of time outside. Sun, rain, snow, you name it – we love to be out in it. We live on a few acres of land in a great neighborhood that is awesome for playing with friends and family. We love to travel and believe it is so important for kids to see and experience new things. We love good food and sit down to dinner together every night. We love Christmas... like a lot. Ryan and I love sports – Cooper, not as much thus far, and that is ok by us 😊. He loves music, books, and figuring out how things work. We love watching him grow into his own little person and relish our role in supporting him as he develops his own interests.

You might be wondering why we want to adopt. Frankly, adoption is close to home for us. Ryan was adopted at birth as was my mother. We understand the significance of the decision you are making firsthand. Our home is stable, accepting, loving, and oh so happy. We want nothing more than to share it with more children.

We will close by simply saying, "thank you." Thank you for your courage in choosing the journey of adoption. Thank you for considering us, our family, as a home for your baby. I can't say we are perfect, but we love each other. We want the best for each other. We support each other. We smile more than we frown, we laugh a lot more than we cry, and we always love. Thank you for considering us to share in loving your child. Blessings to you and yours.

