

“B” family

First and foremost we want you to know our heart truly goes out to you for having to make the hardest decision you’ll make in your entire life. We commend you for having the courage, strength and selflessness it takes to consider the different options with your child’s best interest in mind.

Now a bit about us! We both grew up in blue-collar, close-knit families in southeastern Wisconsin. Mr. B. grew up the oldest of four siblings (3 boys, 1 girl) and Mrs. B. grew up the youngest of three (all girls). We met while attending the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh and instantly became very close friends. Our friendship blossomed into love, we got engaged, moved to downtown Milwaukee, and in May 2000 we were married.

Following the big day, we moved away from the bright lights of downtown Milwaukee out to a near northeast suburb to begin your lives as a family. Shortly after, we were blessed with the birth of our first and only child, a beautiful, fun-loving daughter.

Fast forward to today, our daughter is a vibrant seven-year-old. Mrs. B. is working just a few minutes from home for a local health care provider in the HR department and absolutely loves her job. Mr. B. is working as a finance manager at a consumer products company and is also at a very comfortable point in his career. We are both blessed to be working for very stable, family-friendly companies with supportive co-workers.

The one thing that seems to be missing from our lives is another child. After being unsuccessful in trying to have another child, we decided that adoption is a path that absolutely seems right for our family.

As we’ve navigated through the adoption process, one of the pleasant surprises for us has been the unwavering support we have received from our friends and family. Both sets of our parents are incredibly excited about the prospect of another grandchild and that means that our newly adopted child would instantly have 4 very involved grandparents. Similarly, 4 aunts and 5 uncles are very excited – not to mention 6 cousins.

Our diverse network of friends is an equally important support system for our family. Many have children our daughter’s age and younger, and some are just starting their families. Some are married, some are single. Some are white collar, and many are blue collar. Some are White, some are Native American, some are African American, some are Asian American, but all are good friends we can count on. In fact, the diversity we have among our friends is something that truly helps define who we are. It’s something we value immensely and consider a blessing.

Having such a diverse group of friends has been a tremendous asset in raising our daughter to appreciate her own culture as well as the culture of others. Mrs. B’s heritage is mostly German while Mr. B. came from a multi-cultural family primarily Irish and Native-American (Oneida). We take great care to keep our daughter connected to her heritage through participation at Pow-Wow’s, celebrating ethnic holidays, ethnic

festivals, reading books and preparing ethnic meals, among many other activities. We'd be equally excited to keep our newly adopted child intimately connected to his/her heritage as well – no matter what the heritage is.

We also volunteer our time to other organizations as well – for instance, Mr. B. is on the board of directors for a non-profit company called Inroads, whose mission is to place talented African-American, Native-American and Hispanic youth with key internships at top-level companies. We are very proud of our contributions in this area and will be sure to instill similar values in our children.

Other areas of vital importance to us are education (we both have college degrees), honesty, trust, faith, laughter and having fun. Spending time together as a family to help develop all of these traits on a regular basis is critical. Family trips and vacations are one great way to ensure quality family time and we love to travel! But in the end, there's no place like home, and Milwaukee is our home.

We want you to know we are committed to offering a newly adopted child a life of unconditional love and constant nurturing. We believe that he/she should always know and feel your love as well and we will do everything we can to make sure of that. We are also respectful of the need to keep you informed of the child's journey through life via pictures and letters and are dedicated to following through on that promise, if you so choose. Lastly, we are comfortable discussing varying levels of openness for the adoption, but would need to fully understand the situation before making specific commitments.

Thanks again for your consideration and we wish the best for you and your child – regardless of the decision you make.