

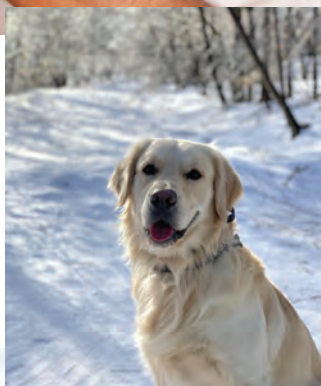
michael + elena





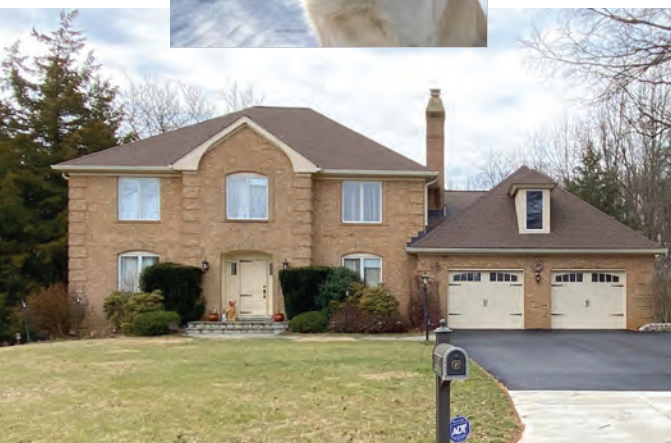
## about us

We are Michael and Elena from Maryland. We met in April 2005 through mutual friends and were married in the summer of 2007. We enjoy spending time outdoors, hiking, fishing, skiing, and biking. We have two wonderful boys and our golden retriever, George, and we always go everywhere together. Elena is a gymnastics coach and has been working with children for over twenty years, and Michael works from home in IT. We own a home in a kid-friendly suburban neighborhood, just 30 minutes outside of the city. Michael's hobbies include fishing and spending time outdoors as well as rooting for his favorite hockey team. Elena also loves the outdoors and especially enjoys traveling and the beach. We are a great team and try to spend all our free time together.



## our home + pet

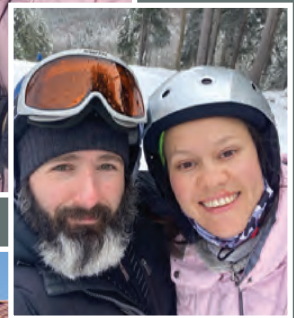
We live in a 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom single family home in the suburbs of Washington D.C. Our neighborhood is very family friendly with a lot of kids of all ages. We have great schools in the area and our kids love their school, teachers and classmates. Michael's parents live very close to us. Only 5 min drive. And our extended family is within a 30 min drive. We have super loving and friendly Golden Retriever George who was named after the first American President George Washington. We have a big backyard with a firepit, patio area, kids' toys and a fenced garden where we plant vegetables, berries, fruits and herbs.



## what led us to adoption

Very early on in our relationship, we knew we wanted a large family. We were blessed with two wonderful kids and have so much more love to give. We would have loved to have one more child but after Elena's last pregnancy doctors advised her not to get pregnant due to high risk of health complications. At that moment, our dream of having another baby melted away. It was a hard time for our family until we started considering adoption. We believe in spiritual connections and that adoption is a miracle. We are ready to share our life with our future children and are very grateful for the opportunity to grow our family.

OUR PHOTO ALBUM



# michael



**OCCUPATION:** IT Director

**RACE:** Caucasian

**RELIGION:** Jewish

**SPORT:** Hockey

**FOOD:** BBQ

**HOBBY:** Fishing

**TRADITION:** Sunday dinners

**MOVIE:** Rocky

**TV SHOW:** Gold Rush

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** History

**BOOK:** Band of Brothers

MORE ABOUT US



# elena

**OCCUPATION:** Rhythmic Gymnastics Coach

**RACE:** Caucasian

**RELIGION:** Christian

**SPORT:** Rhythmic gymnastics

**FOOD:** Italian

**HOBBY:** Cross stitching

**TRADITION:** Summer travel to  
NC beach and fishing

**MOVIE:** Home Alone

**TV SHOW:** Property Brothers

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** Math

**BOOK:** The Master and Margarita





Family is important to both of us. We have a lot of different traditions within the family. Mike's sister and her family host Thanksgiving dinner, and we gather to share super-delicious homemade food and play games. For Christmas, we usually go to Pennsylvania with Elena's sister and her boyfriend and have fun in the snow doing winter sport activities. For birthday celebrations, we gather together in our house and cook something and either play outside games like soccer and hide and seek or play board games like Catan and Monopoly.

We speak Russian and English at home. Our immediate families were from the Soviet Union and remember the Russian language. We travel abroad to Mexico, where we love to spend time on the beach and snorkeling. Our families are big and different, but we always support and help each other. We are even different in religion. Michael's family is Jewish, and Elena's family is Christian. We respect and cherish our differences.

Thank you so much for taking your time to view our profile and considering our family as a part of your journey. Bringing a child into this world is a very selfless act of love and strength. We cannot even imagine what kind of emotions you are feeling right now. Your sacrifices for your baby are honored, and we are all inspired by your courage.

Should you choose us, your baby will be surrounded by unconditional love and compassion. Your child will grow up in a home where they will feel loved, accepted and supported. We believe every child is unique, and we will do our best to create a safe and happy environment where your child can be their authentic self. We will support them every step of the way. They will always know how brave and selfless you are and how loving and caring your soul is. You will always have an important place in your baby's life.

We wish you the best in making this difficult decision. We hope whatever you decide will bring peace in your life. We will be honored, happy, and forever grateful should you choose us for your baby. Thank you again for taking your time to read our story.

With Love,

elena + michael

