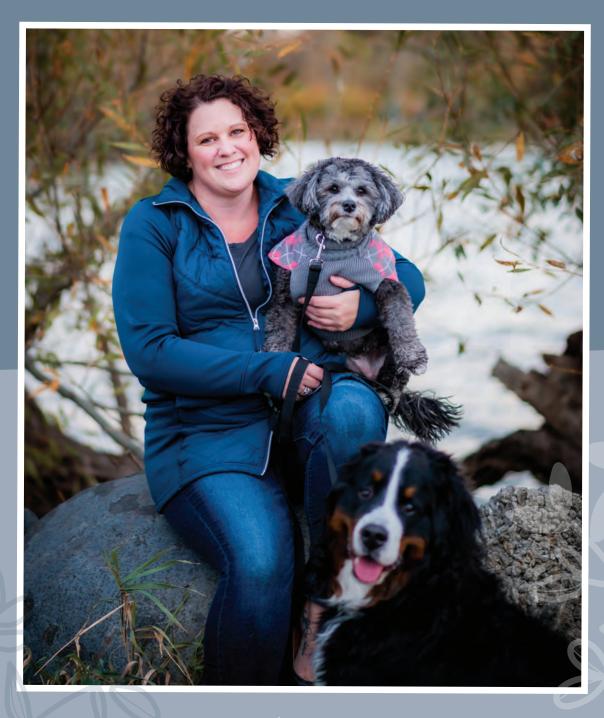
SHANNON

BUILDING MY FAMILY



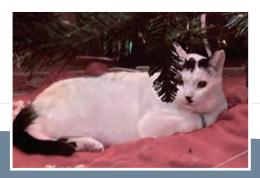












ABOUT ME

Hi, I'm Shannon. Being an independent, single woman in today's world, I take pride in being kind, generous, and hardworking. I start each day with a workout in my bedroom with my dogs "helping." After college, I stayed with the same company for 19 years, working my way up to the top position. Seeking a new challenge, I became a business owner in 2019. I am passionate about my company and what we do. Owning my own company allows me the flexibility to enjoy the things I love. You can find me exploring dog parks or hiking trails with my two dogs, Abby and Cooper. I love the challenge of baking outrageous birthday cakes for my nieces and nephew. On a quiet night in, I may sit down at my piano to learn a new song or just enjoy Netflix with a big bowl of popcorn.

MY HOME AND PETS

I have an amazing house. It is over 150 years old, and I love it. With five bedrooms and three bathrooms, sitting on three-quarters of an acre, it is definitely bigger than my two dogs (Abby and Cooper), my cat (Jeeves), and I can fill. I live in a smaller community in the Midwest just outside a larger, diverse city. I find this to be the best of both worlds. Living in a small town offers a sense of community with high standards for education, and I'm only a 20-minute drive from the children's museum, the zoo, or, my personal favorite, the largest farmers market in the Midwest. Finding something to do is never a challenge.

WHAT LED ME TO ADOPTION

Motherhood has been something I have wanted for as long as I can remember. Although I have been successful in my life, I've always known the puzzle piece of being a mom was missing from completing the picture. After watching a close friend adopt two children, I knew adoption was the path I wanted to take. I know opening my heart and my home to a child will be the most rewarding experience in my life.







MORE ABOUT SHANNON

Occupation: Business owner

Education: College

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Christian

MY FAVORITE...

Sport: College hockey

Food: Popcorn, mashed potatoes

Musical Group: Queen, Fun, Barenaked Ladies

Movie: Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

Family Activity: Pinochle, tubing down a slow river

Dream Vacation: Ireland (I've been twice!)

Animal: Pig

TV Show: Glee, Game of Thrones





MY FAMILY & TRADITIONS

I am the oldest of three children. My sister is seven years younger than I am and is married with a daughter. My brother is fourteen years younger than I am and is a fantastic uncle. My mother is the kindest person I've ever met, she loves painting, sewing and baking. My father passed away when I was only one. My mother remarried and they are still together today, he is a generous and caring man.

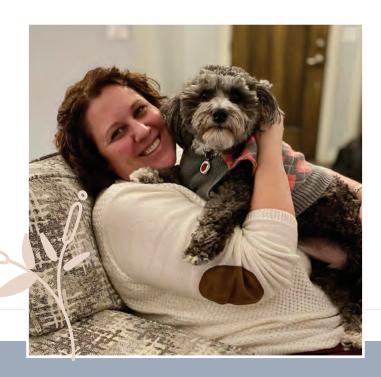
Last year my step-father asked if he could adopt me. Even though he raised me and we always considered each other family he wanted to make it official, so this year I was adopted by my dad. I changed my last name to be a blend of my biological father and my adoptive father so they are both represented in my life. It helped me realize that adoption can be a beautiful thing at any age.

My family loves board games and playing cards, we can be competitive but all in good fun. We love to theme our Christmas. One year it was Harry Potter, and we enjoyed chocolate frogs and figgy pudding. Another year it was Scooby-Doo complete with a treasure hunt and my dad as the villain who kidnapped the elf on the shelf for a cookie ransom.

I was married for 17 years, and although I am now divorced, I am a firm believer that family is forever. Keeping a close connection with my in-laws, niece and nephew is of utmost importance to me. They are all excited for the future of our family.



DEAR EXPECTANT MOTHER



It seems to me that these letters are all the same; maybe some words are changed here or there, but they're mostly the same. I can only try to understand the heartache you are going through as you make the decision of what is right for you and your child, so I'm going to take this opportunity to make some promises to you, should you choose me as part of your adoption plan.

I promise to love your child more than I've ever loved before. I promise to raise your child to be a good person with morals and a sense of right and wrong. I promise to set boundaries and teach him or her how to face challenges head on. I promise to let him or her fly but to always know they have a safe home to return to. I promise to let them be who they are without judgment.

If you've learned only one thing about me, I hope it's knowing I feel family is forever. I have four tattoos, and each of them holds great meaning to me. One of them says, "Teaghlach go Siorai"; it means "Family Forever" in Gaelic. I hope you will want to remain a part of your child's life and that together we can define what that means, but either way, he or she will know who you are. You are giving the wonderful gift of life, and you are making decisions from a place of unconditional love. Whatever you decide, I wish you the very best.

SHANNON





