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# about <mark>us</mark>

We are Erik and Frank! Erik is the social butterfly, while Frank is a little more reserved; we balance each other well. We met online back in 2010 and spent our first date wandering around Chicago, visiting the Art Institute and having lunch. Eight years later, we married on the anniversary of our first date (so we wouldn't forget the date). Erik works in corporate finance management and Frank in account management for international logistics. We typically spend time reading, playing games, cooking, baking, keeping our three dogs active, and taking walks around a nearby lake. During the spring and summer, you can find us spending time with family or friends, gardening, or taking trips to art fairs. Fall and winter usually involve backyard fires, trips to local apple orchards, carving pumpkins, and especially enjoying Halloween while planning for the holidays and much more time with family.

# OUR HOME & PETS

We have a home in an established suburb on a quiet street near one of the best high schools in the state. We have three dogs who can hear the crinkle of a treat bag anywhere in the house no matter how quiet we try to be. When we moved into the area, more than one set of neighbors made a point to introduce themselves and invite us into their homes, showing the type of tolerant, kind, and open-minded community we had joined. We can walk to a nearby lake with a two-mile walking path, multiple playgrounds, and a local ice cream shop. Every year we spend time at block parties sharing the neighborhood news and good homemade food while the kids run around making up their own games.

# WHAT LED US TO ADOPTION

We knew our future was going to include a child even before we got engaged. This can be a challenge for same-sex couples, but for us, a child makes us a complete family and not just a couple. We hope to make this dream a reality through the blessing of adoption. We are excited to share our child with our large, multi-generational family, which will be there for every step in their growth, development, and life. This is what we want to offer our future child.



# our life together







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Occupation: Account Management Education: Bachelor's - Political Science Race: Caucasian Religion: Non-practicing Catholic Sport: Racquetball, biking Food: Steak, potatoes, ice cream Hobby: Gardening, baking, reading, walking, traveling **Tradition:** Christmas morning Swedish pancakes

Musical Group: Aerosmith, Imagine Dragons Movie: Mulan, Immortal Beloved, Star Wars Dream Vacation: European tour TV Show: Game of Thrones, The Big Bang Theory, Downton Abbey







Occupation: Corporate Finance Management Education: Bachelor's - Sociology Race: Caucasian Religion: Non-practicing Catholic Sport: Bowling, softball Food: Chinese, ice cream, ham Hobby: Gardening, gaming, traveling **Tradition:** Botanical garden's Night of a Thousand Jack-o-Lanterns

Musical Group: Muse, Taylor Swift

**Movie:** The Nightmare Before Christmas, Pitch Perfect

Dream Vacation: Alaskan whale watching cruise

**TV Show:** Game of Thrones, Downton Abbey, Bridgerton



## OUR FAMILY & TRADITIONS

Both of us come from larger families. Each of our parents had many siblings, which makes for a lot of aunts, uncles, and cousins to pack the house for holiday get-togethers and every other family event in between. Erik has an older sister and brother, while Frank has an older sister with two children. All of our parents are alive, married, and constantly visiting from the Chicagoland area. Erik's parents can always give you highlights and stats from the Chicago sports teams, while Frank's parents enjoy talking about travel and the arts. We also have two best friends, Kadie and Jessica, who are the family we've added to our lives and eagerly look forward to seeing married in the near future.

Every year for the holidays, we make cookies, pastries, and fruitcake for our neighbors, and we spend New Year's Eve playing games, sharing finger foods, and watching movies with our best friends before ringing in the new year. Fall and winter are always booked with holiday light shows, hunting ornaments and gifts at the annual Kriskindle Mart, and a ski trip with friends. The big July art fair in Madison, WI, is never missed and is the highlight of our summer calendar.





# DEAR expectant mother

We want to take the time to say thank you. Thank you for taking this glimpse into our lives. We can only hope you've seen something in our profile to spark a connection. We can only imagine the thoughts that flow through your mind surrounding this decision that you're considering. Trust is not an easy thing to give to strangers, and we hope this insight into our lives can put your mind and thoughts at ease. We hope you can see and feel the love we have and can't wait to share with a little one.

If you decide to choose us, you would be providing us with an opportunity to fulfill our dreams of becoming parents. We thank you for considering us.

### ERIK & FRANK

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