

Dear Birthmom,

We are Kathleen and Chris, and we can't wait to start our family!

We understand what an amazingly, difficult position you are in as you consider placing your baby for adoption.

We hope you are getting all the love and support you deserve at this time.

We are fortunate to have tremendous support from our families, and we can't wait to share our love with a child.

Kathleen and Chris



Kathleen and Chris

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About Us

In 2003, we met and fell in love. Within a short time, we knew we were meant to share our lives together. We both come from very loving, devoted families and this is one of the things that drew us together.

We had 12 dates within the first month of our courtship (Chris says it's because the Cubs were in the playoffs and Kathleen lived close to Wrigley Field!)

Nine months after that first date we became engaged and were married nine months later. We will be celebrating our seventh wedding anniversary soon.

We have been trying to have a baby for many years. After eight failed InVivo attempts, our progression into adoption came very naturally. Chris has seven relatives who joined his family through adoption, so the process feels natural and made our decision easy.



Meet Kathleen

I was raised in the suburbs of Indianapolis. I grew up on a lake enjoying boating, swimming, and fishing – and in the winters, ice skating and snowmobiling. I have an older brother and younger sister. My brother still lives in Indianapolis with his wife and my two nephews and niece. My sister and her husband live very near to us in Chicago. My dad lives in Indianapolis. When my mom passed away, my parents had been married for 48 years.



My parents were fantastic role models, with mom at home raising the kids. She came from a large family and my two cousins are like brothers to me. My cousins have six kids between them and we're "Aunt Kathleen" and "Uncle Chris" to all of them.

My dad was an entrepreneur starting a custom home building business in the 1960's. Dad is retired now, and my brother and cousin run the company. I have three cousins on my dad's side of the family who have four kids between them!

After high school, I moved to Dallas to pursue a degree in Fashion Merchandising. I later earned a second degree in Communications Marketing. I lived in Dallas for 12 years before moving to Chicago in 2000 to be close to family.



Chris on Kathleen

"Kathleen is definitely the "fun girl" in the room wherever she goes. She is funny and always has a smile on her face. The kids flock to her because she is entertaining and animated.

Several years ago when we were dating, we went to my family's house on Christmas Eve. I couldn't find Kathleen so I began looking for her. I finally found her upstairs playing games with eight of my little cousins. They were all laughing and scrambling to sit on her lap.

That was one of the moments when I knew I wanted her to be my wife and she would make a great mother.



Kathleen's loving spirit and generosity shine through in everything she does. Her attention to detail and organizational skills make her a cinch to be a great mom; from planning events and keeping the family on schedule to meals, doctor's appointments, and activities.

She always knows where we need to be and what time. She amazes me!"



Kathleen's Favorite Memories

One of my favorite childhood memories is driving to Canada each August for 2 fun-filled weeks of fishing and boating. My entire family would pile into the station wagon for the long drive. We always stayed at the same "campground," but Mom's idea of camping was a carpeted 2-story cabin complete with TV and a dishwasher! Many years later, our family reunited at the cabin to celebrate my parents' 40th wedding anniversary. I also have very fond memories of vacationing in Mexico each year for spring break. I love the water!

My parents were very generous and loving. They believed that travel was the greatest form of education, and gave all three of their kids the opportunity to study abroad during college. My sister and I traveled around the world together to five of the seven continents. I have always appreciated that experience and hope to give my children the same opportunity one day.

I have so many great memories of my childhood. I can't wait to create memories with our children!



My mom and me!



*A few of our nieces
and nephews!*

Meet Chris

I grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago and have one older sister. I am godfather to both my niece and nephew, and my parents are active, involved grandparents. They can't wait to welcome another grandchild to the family.

When I was young, I played a lot of sports— football, basketball, baseball – but the one sport that has stuck with me is golf. (My grandfather taught me to play at a young age.) I graduated from college with a degree in Marketing as well as Professional Golf Management.



After college, I moved back to Chicago. My first job was “golf pro” at a country club. This was the job I had always dreamed of! But several years later, I began a career in sales.

In 2009, I started my own trucking company, and am pleased with the success my company has attained. The nice thing about owning my own business is the time it gives me to spend with family.

I look forward to being an involved, hands-on dad with lots of time to spend with our children.



Kathleen on Chris

“Chris is a nurturing guy with a big heart! If he knows someone is going to be alone for a holiday – he is the first person to extend an invitation.

Chris is funny and outgoing. He’s always telling jokes and making people laugh. Chris is also very competitive and determined.

Chris coached our nephew’s basketball team three years in a row and he enjoys taking our other nephew tubing each summer. He also coaches our nieces and nephews in golf. He is

excited to share his passion for sports with our children and one day coach our children’s team. I’ll cheer them on and bring the snacks!

We cheered on my brother and sister-in-law in the 2009 Chicago Marathon. Chris couldn’t believe the people running -- a blind man, a 75 year old, a paraplegic. He decided right then and there if they could do it, so could he.

Chris ran and finished the Chicago Marathon October 10, 2010! I am still so proud of him!”



10-10-10 Chicago Marathon finish line!



Kathleen’s dad, brother, Chris, Kathleen, our niece and K’s sister.



Chris's Favorite Memories

As a child, I spent many weekends at my grandparents' home. All my aunts, uncles, and cousins would gather together to eat, play games, and have fun.

A special treat was for all the kids to spend the night and help my grandfather prepare breakfast the next morning. Whether it was pouring the orange juice, buttering the toast, or setting the table, we always had fun and looked forward to our sleepovers.



Chris with our neice and nephew at a Cubs game.



On a cruise off of Diamond Head in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Another special memory I have is going to West Virginia each year. We have a family reunion every year in West Virginia at Pipestem State Park, which is the most beautiful place on earth to me. Family comes from all around the country to vacation there. We play games, swim, go on hikes, play golf and spend a lot of time catching up.

The fanciest restaurant in the town is the Dairy Queen and it is right on the river. It's low keyed and so much fun! Memories are always shared as well as new ones created every year. I will never forget these events from my childhood and look forward to it each year.

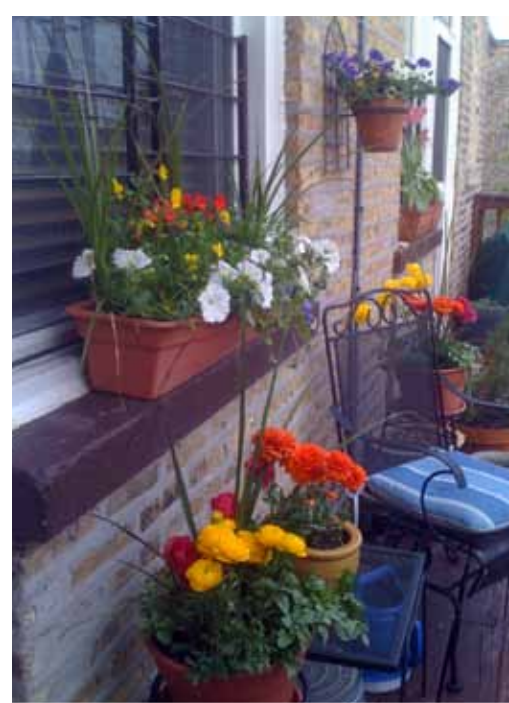
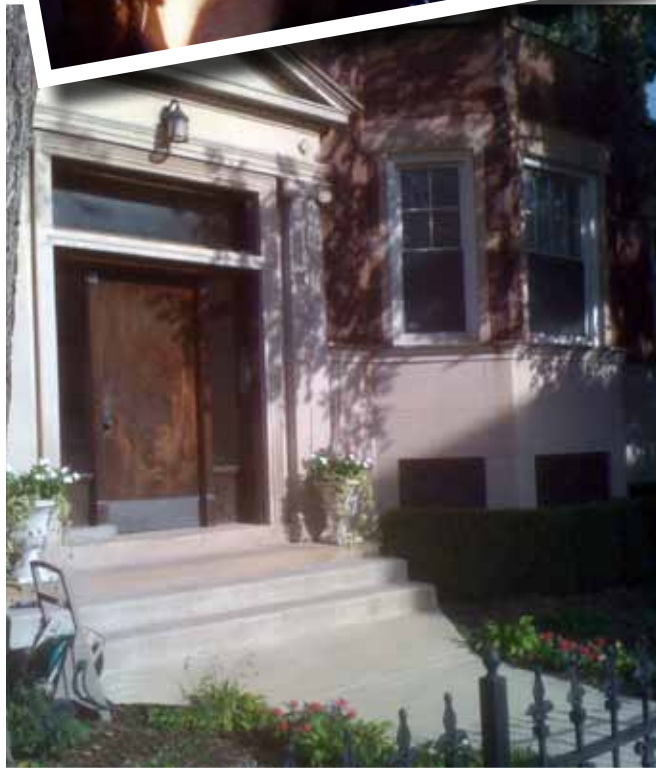
Our Home

Kathleen purchased our current home when we were dating (she is a true 21st century lady!) Chris moved in after the wedding. We live in a great neighborhood close to the lake, schools, parks, and all the action!

We have friendly neighbors and there are several babies in our building. Our plan is to upgrade to a larger home once we have a child. Kathleen loves to garden and can't wait to have a huge backyard. We always have amazing flowers and a pretty nice vegetable garden!

We spend a lot of time outdoors. We have a TV on the back porch and it seems like we are always entertaining at our home - which we love.

Our neighbors come by all the time with their children to hang out and play games. Everyone knows they can always call us to babysit!



Our Lives Together



Together, we love to cook, travel, try new restaurants, go dancing, and attend sporting events. We also love costume parties and entertain friends and family. We especially like trivia games and getting into a friendly challenge with our competitors! Chris says Kathleen knows everything about nothing - which has its advantages sometime!

We love setting goals and working together to accomplish them. Whether it is painting our condo or participating in a cook-off, we have mastered our team skills. As aspiring parents, we know this skill set will become extremely valuable.

Soon after we met, Chris introduced Kathleen to his family at their annual Christmas party. We walked into the room and over 100 people stopped talking and just stared at us - Chris had never brought a girl to meet the family before! To this day, Chris's family jokingly thanks Kathleen for taking him off their hands, while Kathleen's dad reminds Chris that there is a no return policy!

We love spending the summer holidays at Kathleen's childhood home on a lake. It's always great to be with family and friends sharing a great meal, conversation, and lots of laughs. We are lucky to be able to share Thanksgiving and Christmas with both sides of our family.



Disco Party!



80's Party!

Our Families

We provided the kids in Kathleen's family with markers and posterboard. We asked them to color a message that would be from everyone to a baby.

This is what they came up with:

We Can't Wait To Meet You Future Son/Daughter, Cousin, Nephew, Niece, Grandchild, Co-Worker, Friend, President!

Our goal in writing this letter is to give you a little insight into our lives and comfort in knowing how very much your child would be loved and cherished by us.

If you decide you would like to get to know us, please call us at **800.717.1563** email us at **KandC@BornToBeParents.com**, or contact our adoption counselor, Tobi Ehrenpreis, at 800.869.1005.

Thank you for reading our story!



Kathleen's Family

Chris dresses up as Santa each year for the kids!



Chris's Family