Dear Parent,

Thank you so much for allowing us to introduce ourselves and tell you more about our family. And most importantly, thank you for making the courageous decision to give your child life and for considering us as possible parents.

How we met:

We met about five years ago because of a baseball game - not at a game, but because of one – when we were working at the same Army base. Colt was still active duty and Trish worked for the Army as a civilian. Every year the local minor league team would host a Military Appreciation night where the entire stadium was Military personnel. That particular base is a training base, and it was Colt's job to get as many trainees to the game as possible, and it was Trish's job to



coordinate the details with the baseball management. The night of the game, we sat together behind home plate. Of course, there is a lot in between, but six weeks of coordinating over the phone and a baseball game eventually led to an amazing friendship and eventually marriage.

We have been married for almost three years. Colt retired from the Army and had his heart set on moving back to Montana where he grew up. We said goodbye to our Army careers and set forth on a new adventure. It has been an adjustment, but we absolutely love it.

About us:

"Let me tell you about my most favorite guy in the world. Colt is an amazing man and an incredible dad. He's not a stepfather, he is a step-up father. He took on parenthood head-on when he met me, single with three teenagers at the time. He loves our children and can really relate to them. Colt is the hardest working man I know. He has a wonderful sense of adventure. He is not one to sit still for long. Next to his family, the outdoors is his greatest love. Hunting, fishing, hiking, riding ATVs, kayaking, skiing – if it's outside, he's doing it. He is smart and funny. He is strong and sensitive. He is fun and intense. Every single day he makes me laugh. Of the long list of my favorite things about him, his humor is on top. Colt just has one of those personalities that you can't help but love." ♥ Trish

"Please meet Trish, one of what seems to be an ever-dwindling population of truly genuine women, grounded in values yet open to new opportunities. Her love for me and others is apparent in her daily actions. Where others sometime focus on superficial accolades or gifts, Trish always takes the genuine approach to truly care for others. She is an amazing mom that has raised three smart and well-mannered kids that will no doubt go on to be highly successful. In addition to these great family qualities, she is also highly sought after at work for her expertise and tireless work ethic. So many people rely on her to be an amazing mother, wife, friend, sister, and team member; she takes all this on with devotion like I have never witnessed before." ♥ Colt

A little about the kids:

Maren is a college student currently studying in Taiwan. She has such an incredible spirit. She is kind and caring and full of spunk. She loves a challenge and won't stop until she has mastered it, which is why she's majoring in Chinese. Adam and Zachary are identical twins that could not be more opposite. They are sweet and sour; funny and feisty; but equally stubborn. Adam is all about sports, especially running. He lifts weights, wrestles, runs cross country, but sprinting in track is his passion. We have really enjoyed celebrating all his personal records. Zach loves art and music. He likes to paint. He learned how to play ukelele on his own, and now plays guitar in school. We've enjoyed seeing him come out and his shell and excel in Speech and Debate. It has been fun to see each of the kids grow into their own.

Our family is the most important thing to us. We are very active and appreciate the outdoors. We enjoy camping, hiking, kayaking, fishing, and yes, baseball. We have gotten to travel to many different countries and across the US because of the military. We enjoy experiencing new things, different cultures, meeting new people, and trying new foods (we are a little bit of a foodie).

Why we chose adoption:

The children are Trish's from a previous marriage. Colt does not have any children of his own. We knew we wanted to have a child together as soon as we became "official." Trish has experienced multiple miscarriages and her two successful pregnancies were complicated both resulting in premature deliveries. We saw multiple fertility specialists and one honest specialist told us the hard truth of it being very, very unlikely to have a successful pregnancy again. It was heartbreaking to hear, but it was still our desire, and that led us to adoption.

We looked at several options, called a few agencies, but we kept coming back to Catholic Social Services because we liked the idea of connecting with our child-to-be's birth parent(s) – of having them choose us to parent their baby, and choosing them in return. We aren't just looking for "a child", but seeking to grow our family in a way that only an open adoption can.

Thank you for taking a moment to learn a little more about us. As overwhelming as this process has been for us, we can only imagine the intense feelings you must be having as well. So, we would like to say thank you again for your consideration. We acknowledge the weight of the decision you are making. We do believe that God brings people together for reasons that only He knows and understands. Regardless of the path you chose or the parents you chose, we pray that God will comfort you and guide you, just as He has us in our own journey.

♥ Colt & Trish