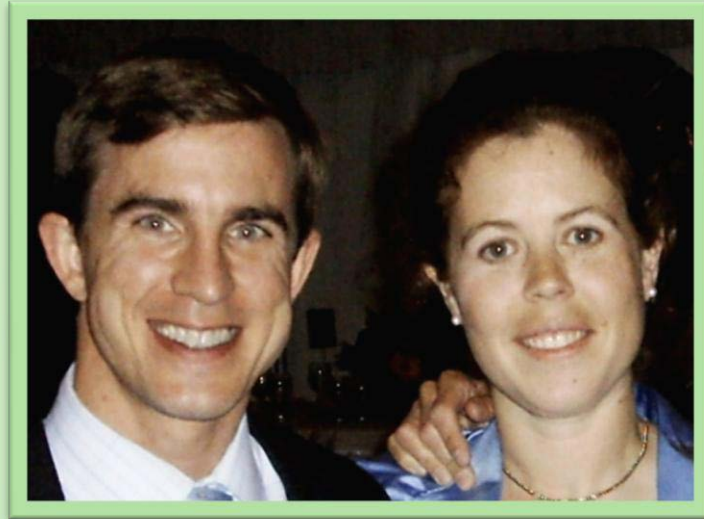


# Emily & Greg

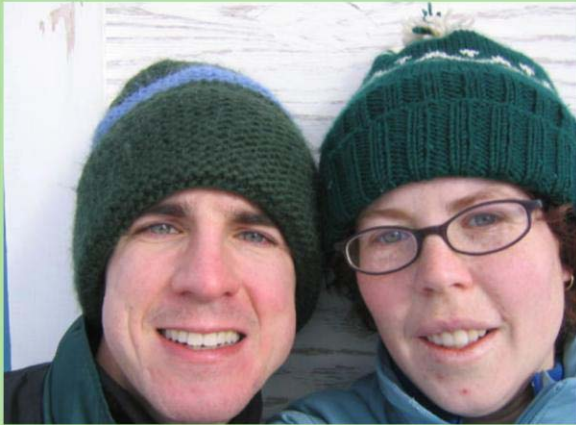


Dear Birthmother,

Hi. We are Emily and Greg. Thank you for taking the time to read our letter. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to introduce ourselves to you as possible adoptive parents for your child. We hope that we can portray to you in this letter how much love and joy we share in our home, and are now anxious to share with a child. We have wanted to be parents for a long time, and we are grateful to you for giving us the chance to fulfill our dream of starting a family.

## Our Story

We met in medical school in 1999. Almost instantly, we were drawn to each other's playful nature, love of the outdoors, and excitement to explore the world around us. We were great friends before we started dating. Whether running races, kayaking, hiking, or learning to dance, we loved spending time together. Once we became romantically involved, we both knew that "this was it." Two years later we were engaged, and we were married in May of 2005. Our wedding day was one of the most special days of our lives. There is nothing better than being married to your best friend. We continue to enjoy everyday together and look forward to growing our family.

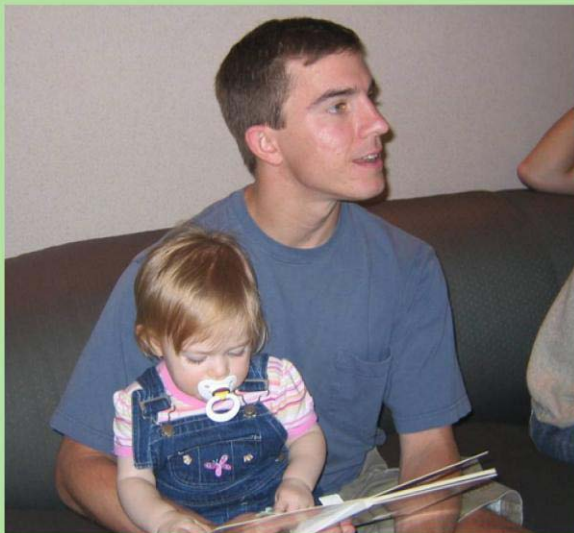


At the end of a winter hike



Our wedding day

As we approached the end of our medical training we were excited to finally be able to focus on starting our family. We tried on our own for quite a while and eventually sought the help of infertility specialists. After 3 years, many medical procedures, and the heartbreak of 2 miscarriages we decided to pursue other options. We realized that more than anything we just want to be parents. We would like the opportunity to love and cherish a child, and to support and encourage them as they grow. We can't wait to read bedtime stories, make up silly songs, bake cookies with grandma, and go on family camping trips together.



Greg sharing books with our friend's daughter

### Emily about Greg

Greg is a wonderful husband and an incredible human being. He is calm, gentle, patient, and loving. The two things I love most about him are his playful, adventurous nature and that I can always count on him to do what's right...even if it is hard. Greg is close to his parents and his brother Dan. He makes it a point to stay connected to them and we visit them often.

He is always willing to try something new, from experimenting with new recipes in the kitchen, to making maple syrup from a tree in my parent's yard. Last year he read a book about home improvements, and then proceeded to put new hardwood floors in our house. Then he helped my sister and brother-in-law do it in their house. They look great!

Greg loves children, partly because he loves to play. Last fall after raking leaves with the neighbor's kids, I'm not sure who was more excited to jump in the leaf pile, them or Greg. He works as an emergency room doctor, and when we are sharing the events of our day over dinner, his favorite stories usually revolve around the kids he took care of that day. He enjoys the looks on their faces when he says he knows what they ate by listening to their bellies with a stethoscope. When they start to feel better, he loves to walk with them to the ER kitchen to share a popsicle before they go home.



Making Maple Syrup

## Greg about Emily

Emily is my absolute best friend and wife. She is one of the most caring people I know and is constantly putting others ahead of herself. From friends and family, to her patients, to people she has newly met, she is always reaching out a helping hand to provide both emotional and physical support.

She encourages me and others to become the best people we can be, and she will make an excellent mother. I have seen the wonderful and caring support Emily provides to her sister, brother, and their new children and I know she will do the same for our family.

Emily has a passion for enjoying life and encourages others to do the same. Several years ago she became interested in magic and has since developed an entire show for kids. She has performed at birthday parties and for the neighborhood kids, who are always excited to see her newest trick.

One of Emily's best qualities is her playful attitude. She has a special way of taking stressful situations and allowing everyone to relax. I am constantly thankful to have her as my wife, and I am excited to be starting a family with her.



Emily playing cello



Emily and Greg caving during a vacation to Belize

We live in a small college town in western Massachusetts. It is a great place to live and a safe location to raise children. Emily grew up here, and her parents and two of her siblings live nearby. Our house is on a cul-de-sac at the end of a quiet street. It is one of those old fashioned neighborhoods where kids can ride their bikes, climb trees, and play tag in a safe and friendly environment.



The Front of Our House



The Back of Our House and  
the Yard

In the summer we enjoy hiking in the mountain range 20 minutes from our house and swimming in the local ponds. Wintertime brings a chance for cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Mocha, our dog, is our trusty companion on these outdoor adventures. She's a very sweet dog, loves people, and loves to play outside.

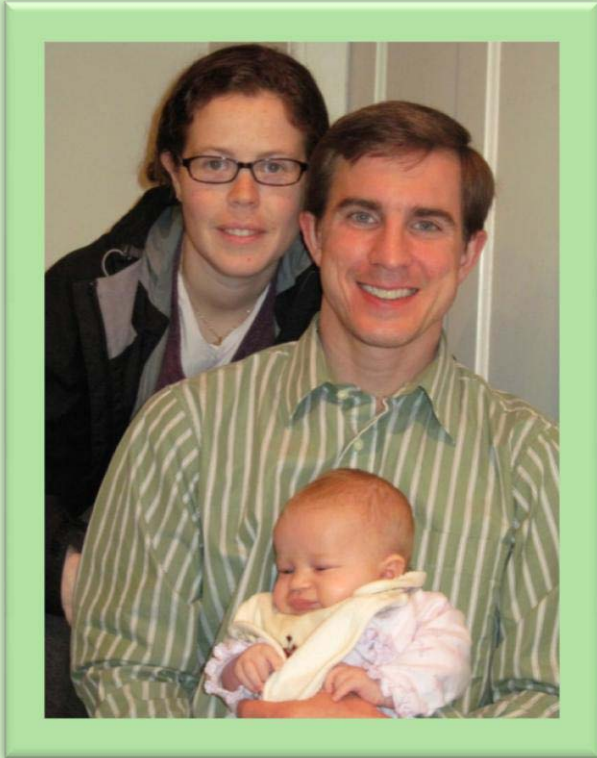


Mocha  
She's a little more than a  
year old now

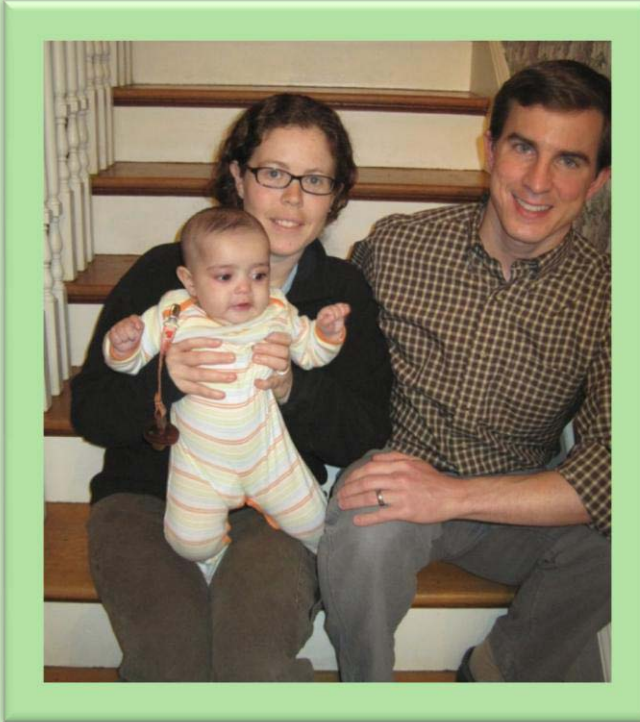
At the top  
of a windy  
hike with  
Greg's  
brother  
and his  
fiancée



We are lucky to be close to both of our families. Since Emily's family lives within 10 miles of us, we see them often. We get together for dinners and outings on a regular basis. Emily comes from a big family. She has two brothers and a sister. Her two younger siblings just welcomed daughters into their families. We are currently enjoying our new roles as an aunt and uncle.

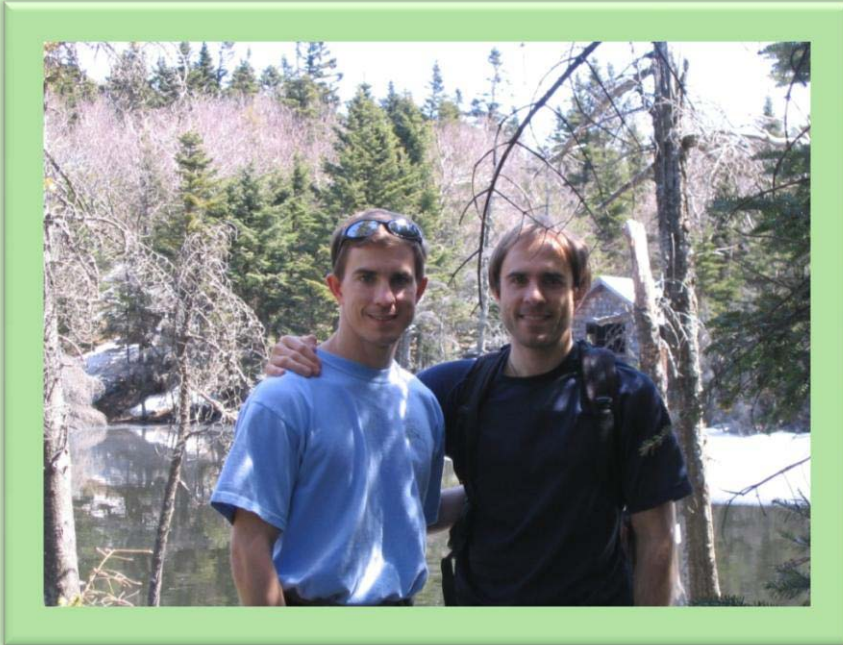


Hanging out with our nieces, Zoe and Olivia



Emily's Family  
Her parents, sister and brother-in-law, brother and sister-in law, and our two nieces

Greg's parents, Mary and Dennis, and his brother, Daniel, live about 3 hours away. We get together with them often for family events and to celebrate holidays. Greg's brother is currently engaged and plans to get married in September of 2010. The whole family is excited about our decision to adopt and plans to be a big part our child's life.



Greg and Dan hiking around in the woods near his parent's lake house



Getting together with Greg's family for his Dad's birthday

Both of our families are excited about, and supportive of our plan to adopt. After watching us struggle through the challenges of infertility, they can't wait to see us fulfill our dream of being parents. Greg's parents are anxious to be grandparents for the first time. Emily's parents are excited to see another grandchild come into their lives, and are looking forward to watching the cousins grow up together. Our families have instilled in us the importance of staying close, the value of education, and the meaning of believing in one's self. These are values we hope to pass on to our children.



Summer BBQ  
with friends at our  
house

We live a fun and simple life filled with friends and family. Our small town community offers all the comforts of a smaller place, but since it is surrounded by five colleges and universities, it has the culture and diversity of a larger city. There are opportunities for theatre, art, athletics, dance, music and everything in between. Fortunately, we are at a place in our lives where professionally and financially we can be home with our child during his/her early years. Since we have family so close, we have many trusted babysitters and helpers around as well. We think we have the love and resources to offer a child a wonderful life. We hope you think so too. Your amazing act of love for this child is admirable, and we wish you peace and happiness for your future.

Thank you and best wishes,

Emily and Greg

