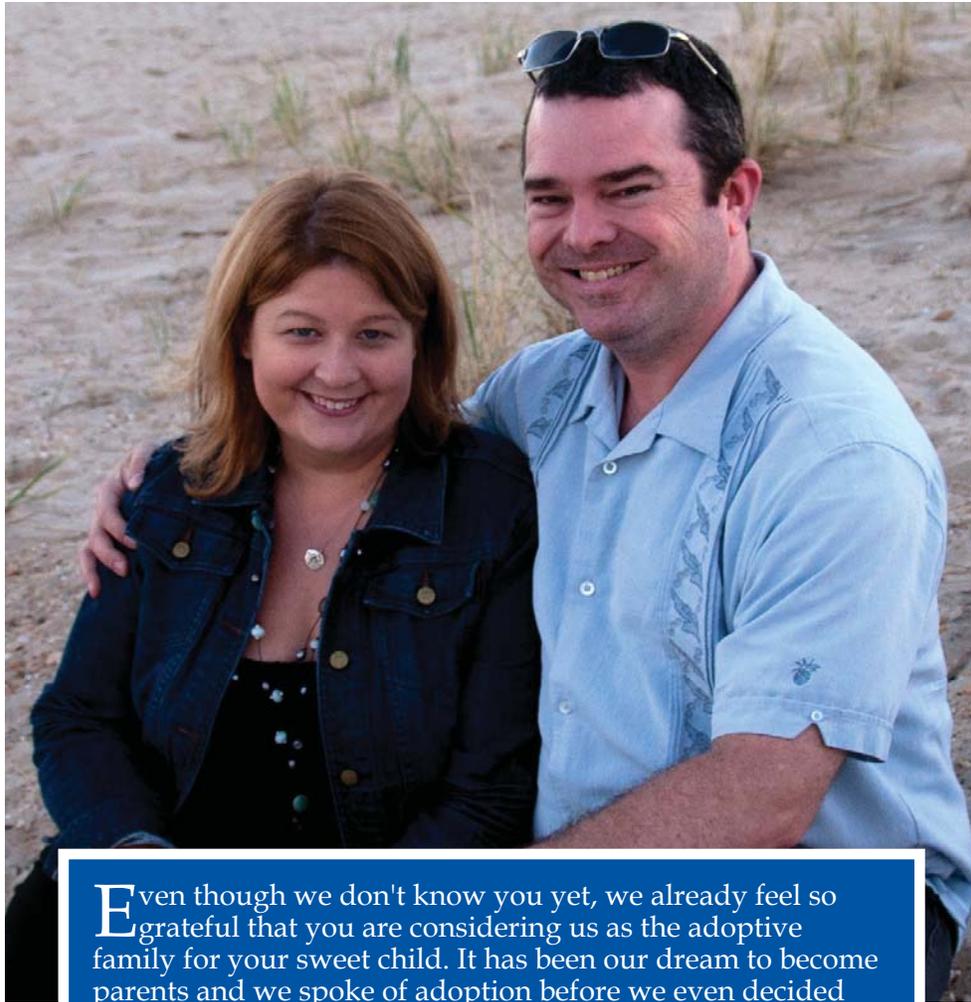


DON & SUSAN



A LITTLE BIT ABOUT US ...

DON

SUSAN

Our Jobs

Software Analyst

VP of Communications

Our Education

Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor's Degree

Some of Our Favorite Things

Tradition

Celebrating Our
First Date

Tradition

Hosting a Bash to
Welcome Summer and
Don's Birthday

Quality About Spouse

Her Giving Nature

Quality About Spouse

His Patience

Hobby

Woodworking

Hobby

Crafts

Leisure Activity

Reading

Leisure Activity

Nature Walks

Vacation Spot

Visiting Either of Our
Families at the Beach

Vacation Spot

Puerto Rico

Children

None

Even though we don't know you yet, we already feel so grateful that you are considering us as the adoptive family for your sweet child. It has been our dream to become parents and we spoke of adoption before we even decided to start a family. Susan was adopted herself and so we know what an honorable and selfless act it is to place your trust in another family. We give you our word that we will raise your child in a happy home, with tons of love and lots of laughter. Bedtime stories, trips to the beach, bike riding, library hour, travel, crafts and more await your child in our home.

HOW ADOPTION HAS AFFECTED US

When Susan was 8 months old, she was adopted by a wonderful couple who turned out to be the best parents. For two long years they waited patiently to meet their child and finally, with just two days notice, they received a call that she was waiting to meet them, too.



Adoption is a special way to build a family — no one knows that better than Susan. She looks forward to sharing that bond and life experience with her own child one day.

Don could not agree more. We know that we will always be open and honest with our child about how he or she came to be part of our family. We will teach our child to love and respect his or her birthmother for making a brave and courageous decision.



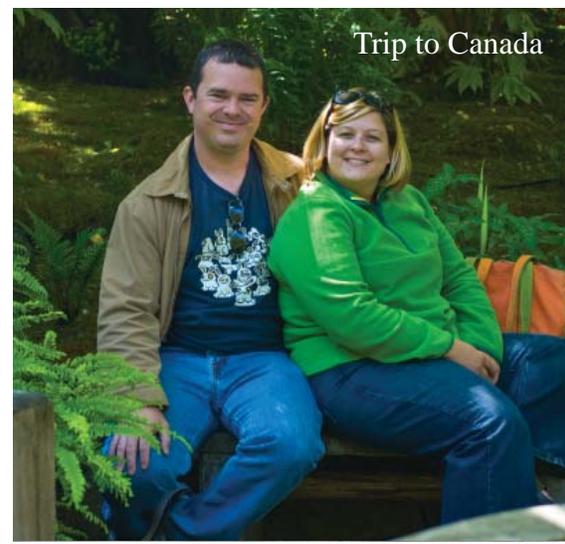
OUR PASSIONS

We have lots of interests and hobbies (we're always trying new activities), but the thing we're the most passionate about is art. About seven years ago, we started making stained glass mirrors in the basement. As the stacks of mirrors started to grow, we realized we'd better find something to do with them, and we decided to sell them at arts and crafts festivals. Working with clients and meeting new people at the festivals turned out to be just as much fun as making the art.

Recently our love of woodworking and crafts expanded. Don made some of the furniture for our new house, installed our kitchen cabinets and knocked down a wall between our living room and dining room. Susan loves working with glass, but she also loves paper art projects and has recently been making creations for our own home.

We both love photography and we're never without a camera. What we like best about working projects like these, is that there is always something new to try. We're excited to help our little one explore his or her creativity one day.

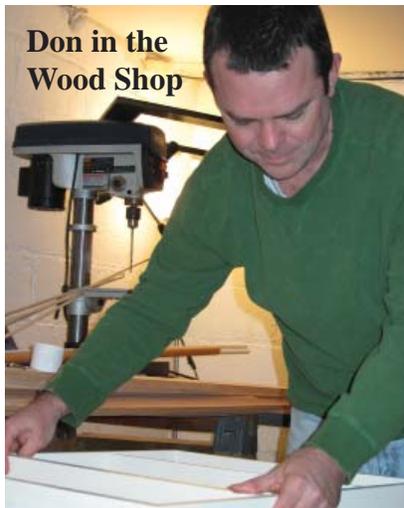
We're also fans of performing arts and while that doesn't happen to be a talent either of us share, we support local theatre companies, musicians and a variety of live performance venues in our hometown.



Trip to Canada



With Our Friend's New Son



Don in the Wood Shop



With Our New Puppy, Casey



Susan Working on a Mirror



Seattle



At a Craft Show

OUR HOUSE & NEIGHBORHOOD

Virginia - A parenting magazine recently named our town the best place in America to raise a family. Fabulous schools, wide-open spaces and parks, and access to some of the most famous landmarks in the country pushed it to the top of the list. We couldn't agree more.

When we bought our home last year, we took care to make sure we would be in a great school district with lots of parks within walking distance. There are lots of kids in our neighborhood with young families living on every street. There's a bike trail just steps from our front door, and a community pool with a splash park about a mile away.

Our brick home has four bedrooms and two bathrooms, a big family kitchen and lots of outdoor space. We just remodeled the second floor to make more room for the nursery and master bedroom. Don is very handy.

We have a wonderful backyard with a big patio that's perfect for having a family meal or spending the afternoon with coloring books, and a large yard for running and playing. Susan loves to garden and grows vegetables and flowers at home. We also love to hit the local farmer's market on weekends.

We walk everywhere in our neighborhood — the grocery store, shops, restaurants and the gym - and everywhere we go there are families with children.

It couldn't be a better location for a family!



Home Sweet Home

OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES

We are both really close to our families. Both sets of our parents are excited to be grandparents for the very first time.

Susan's parents have been married for 40 years. About a year ago they both retired and have loved every minute of it, traveling and having fun adventures together. Last year they took a three-week trip to see the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Park. They look forward to fun weekends at the beach with their grandchild.



Susan and Her Mom

Don's parents have been married for 45 years and have lived in Florida most of their lives. Don was lucky that his grandparents lived in the same town as he was growing up. When the kids were young, Don's dad loved to take them boating. Don's mom works at a coffee shop to keep busy and she considers all her young co-workers her extra "kids." She's a wonderful baker and makes treats all the time.



Waterfront Dinner with Friends

We also have a big, close circle of friends who we see frequently and consider part of our family. Every weekend we get together to have dinner or game night, see a movie, take a walk or plan a getaway to the beach. As our friends have added to their families, the children join us most of the time and we love looking for new ways to include them like spending the day at the zoo or checking out the children's museum.

WHAT MADE US WHO WE ARE

Susan's grandfather came to America from Germany with nothing to his name. He had been trained as a furniture maker so he was able to find work easily. Still, life was a struggle — trying to make enough money to survive, while learning English and finishing school. He worked hard and set his mind on a goal — to open his own wood shop. Eventually, he succeeded. He taught Susan that if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life. She took it to heart and has been lucky enough to find a career that makes her happy. One of Don's favorite things about Susan is how she can set her mind on a goal and work toward it with enthusiasm.

Don also has a real life hero in his father, Eric. He always set an example for being kind and helping others. Don says his dad always had time to teach, even when Don didn't always want to learn. After having such a good role model, Don has developed these skills himself. Susan knows that Don will be a great father because he can patiently and cleverly explain just about everything (except he still hasn't been able to teach Susan how to drive a stick shift).

DEAR BIRTH PARENTS,

Thank you for looking at our profile. We're so excited to begin our family through adoption, especially since Susan was adopted herself as an infant. We understand what a careful and loving decision you've made for your child.

We welcome this chance to tell you more about our life together. We've known each other for nine years now and have been married for about three years. We were married on the beach in Maryland, where Susan was raised. We have a very happy life — full of laughter and love.

In 2010, we bought our first house in Virginia, and we've had so much fun renovating it and decorating it. We can't wait until we're able to start on the nursery.

We like to spend some of our spare time together making and selling crafts, which allows us to express our creativity and work with our hands. Don enjoys woodworking and Susan loves crafts of any kind. We both look forward to encouraging creativity in our little one and plan to have lots of paper, crayons, paints and clay ready when the time is right.

We love spending time exploring our new neighborhood. There are so many parks and playgrounds nearby, a community pool with a fun splash park, sports fields of every type and access to one of the best walking and biking trails in the area is just two blocks from our front door. The school system in our neighborhood — one of the best in the country — was a major factor in selecting our home.

As much as we love being home, we also love traveling — and especially visiting our family and friends around the country. Susan's family lives at the beach a short drive from our home and we try to visit several times a year. We always enjoy the fresh seafood (Susan's dad is a wonderful cook and her mom loves to try to catch fish and crabs, usually with mixed results!) and visiting the national seashore just a few miles from Susan's childhood home. Don also grew up near the water - in Florida, where his parents still live. Since it's so hot there in the summer, we visit every winter. Don's brother also calls Florida home. We both love being on or in the water as much as we can, from swimming to sailing to kayaking - even just reading a book at the beach is a fun day for us.

At Thanksgiving, both sides of our family gather at our house for a weekend of celebrating and giving thanks for all we have been given. Both families were very excited when we told them we were planning to adopt. After all, Susan is adopted so we all know just how much joy adoption can bring to a family.

We also have a large extended family in our circle of friends who live nearby and around the world, and we love to visit them and their children. All of our friends are happy to know we're planning to add to our own family and we look forward to lots of family play time in the future. Many of our local friends are having babies this year so your child will have friends right away!

We know you will be curious about your child as he or she grows up, and we want you to know we will share photos and letters with you as often as you are comfortable. Don's a great photographer so we'll never lack for pictures of our family. We're open to discussing even more contact including e-mails, phone calls or even occasional visits if you'd like.

We have a wonderful life together and look forward to being parents. Thanks for taking the time to get to know more about us.

DON & SUSAN



FOR MORE INFORMATION ...

Visit this family online at www.americanadoptions.com/family_profile/index/fp_id/26402