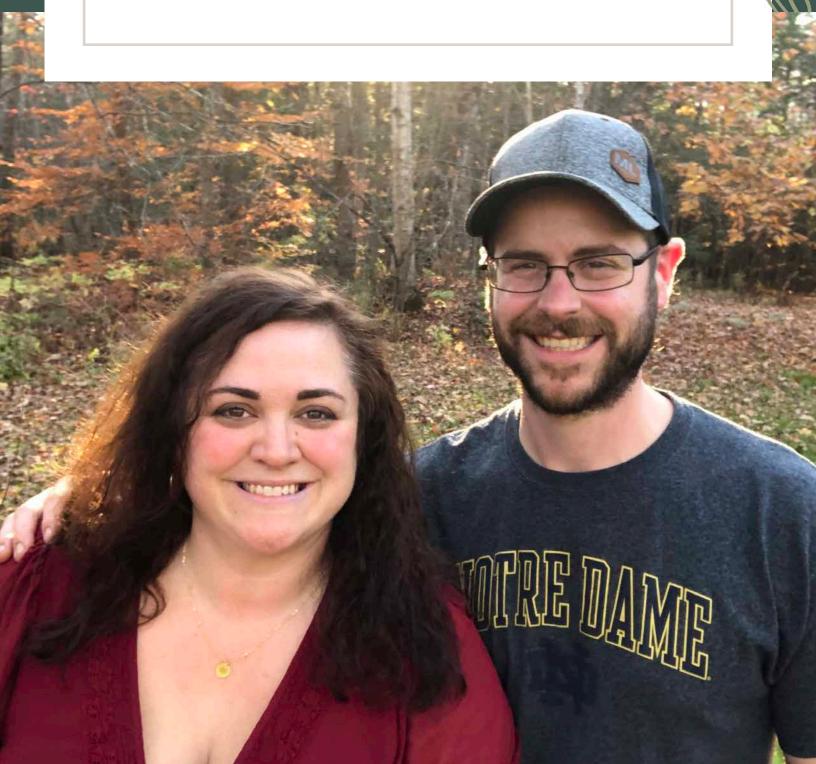
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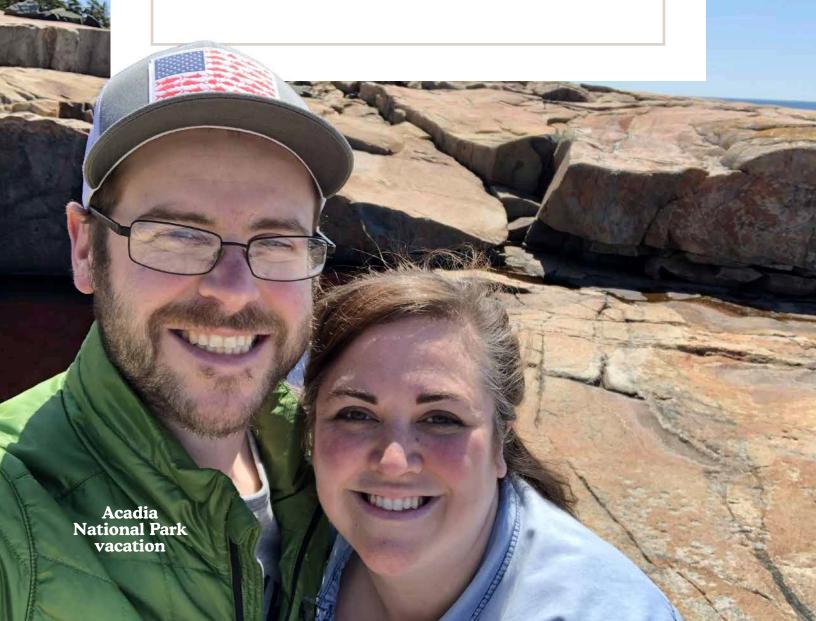
Sarah + Tyler





We are Sarah and Tyler from the beautiful state of Maine

We live in a small, close-knit waterfront community just outside the city. Coming from very loving families, we have always dreamed of building our own family.











Seeing the Nutcracker is a holiday tradition

We've spent the last 18 years building memories with each other, friends and families and now we look forward to making new memories as parents. After years of failed fertility treatments, we decided to adopt. Strangely, this decision seemed effortlessly straightforward: our greatest wish is to become parents. It's as though a part of us has always known that this journey was meant for us. Reflecting on Tyler's teenage years, when he and his partner selflessly navigated the adoption process, connecting their precious child with her forever family, we now find ourselves in a similar position, extending the same heartfelt offering to another.

We thank you for taking the time to read our profile and learn of our journey. Your journey has led you here and we'd love to get to know you more.



We love craft fairs! Sarah bakes and sells her goods

Story

Our journey started back when we were in college. What initially started as a simple friendship quickly blossomed into something truly special, and now, 18 years later, here we are!

As best friends, we have a very deep and loving connection built on communication and trust. One thing you'll notice about us is that we're easygoing and positive people. We don't waste time with unnecessary bickering or arguments; we prefer to resolve any issues swiftly so we can get back to enjoying life to the fullest. Spending time with family is very important to us. As teachers, we have amazing schedules that allow us to spend a lot of time with friends and family, as many of them are teachers as well. Our home is nestled in a charming waterfront community. Sarah's family owns a waterfront camp up North, and Tyler's family resides by the ocean just beyond the city limits. We're grateful for everything we have and that our journey has brought us here.

On Adoption



We've been running local track meets for 10 years



When Tyler was a teenager he experienced an unexpected pregnancy with his girlfriend. After much thought and discussion about what would be best for their daughter, they made the selfless decision as birth parents to place her for adoption.

It was one of the most difficult, and rewarding experiences for Tyler; he only wanted her to have the best life possible and knew at that stage in his life he would not be able to provide for her. Being able to see her growth and the opportunities that she has experienced has filled Tyler's heart with warmth, and helped to reinforce to him that he made the right decision. We feel almost like it is destiny that has brought us here to this point, and we would love to offer that same opportunity to a difficult decision as adoptive parents.

Sarah

By Tyler

Sarah and I first met in college, where we were friends for almost a year before we began dating. She is absolutely my best friend. We love spending time together, whether it is visiting a museum, working on projects around the house, taking out the boat, or a relaxing movie night at home. She is the most kind and compassionate person I know. Sarah is always helping others: friends, family members, and her students. I believe this is what drove her to dedicate the last fifteen years to the field of special education. Sarah is currently an Inclusion Facilitator at two local elementary schools, where she oversees instruction for over 100 special needs children. When interacting with her students Sarah is patient, understanding, and builds trustworthy relationships. She finds innovative and engaging ways for her students to grow, and is constantly celebrating their achievements and reinforcing positive behaviors. Her students, some of whom are the most challenging to work with, absolutely adore her. And just like her "kiddos," I could not imagine a life without her.

Whether it is hosting family events, making a home-cooked meal, or documenting memories in her scrap books, I know Sarah will create a warm and loving environment for our children.



Sarah loves baking for family and friends when they host football Sundays





My favorite children's My favorite hobby book is Charlotte's is baking Web My favorite seasonal My favorite vacation activity is singing spots are Newport, Christmas Carols in Rhode Island + Disney the snow My favorite author is My biggest source Robert Munsch (my of inspiration is my students' favorite!) mother

The perfect day looks like: apple farm, pumpkin patch, picnic in the park, ocean drive, and bonfire at night





Tyler in all his glory ice fishing



Tyler

By Sarah

Tyler is, without a doubt, my favorite person. He's not just my husband; he's my best friend. He's fun, supportive, hard-working, patient and devoted. He pours his heart and soul into everything he does. A few years ago, he set a personal goal to master carpentry, and without hesitation, he immersed himself in this craft. Last summer, he even took on the task of rebuilding our deck and it came out amazing- I couldn't have been prouder!

Tyler teaches social studies at a local high school. He absolutely loves his job, and not just because he gets to talk about history most of the day (and trust me, he loves that), but because he genuinely wants to make our community a better place. Despite having grown up in the city, he's found a deep love for country life. He thrives outdoors, where you can find him hunting, fishing, boating, gardening, and there's always a new carpentry project in the works.

Tyler is an extraordinary husband, and I have no doubt that he will be an exceptional father, too. He loves talking about all the memories we'll create when we start a family, and I can't wait to share that journey with him.



My favorite hobby is ice fishing

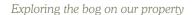
My favorite sports team is the Chicago Bears

My favorite vacation spot is Newport, Rhode Island My favorite place to take a child is Santa's Village

My favorite seasonal activities are hunting and fishing

My biggest source of inspiration is Sarah

My favorite dessert is peanut butter fudge





Our Home



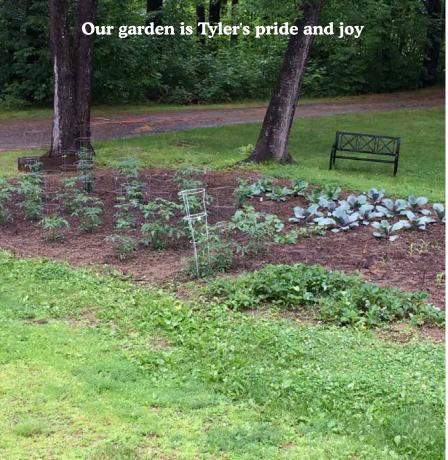


Even though it's only a short drive to the city, our country home is nestled in between many lakes and mountains, which is perfect for Tyler, given his love for hiking and being outdoors. Our home's spacious and open floor plan has made our home the "go-to" place for family gatherings and holidays. We love hosting family barbecues on our large back deck (that Tyler built!). Our favorite part of our home is our yard. With over 6 acres, we have woods to explore, wild raspberries and blackberries, a large garden, a fire pit and a huge lawn, perfect for family gatherings. We absolutely love living in Maine and experiencing all four seasons. Fall and winter are our favorite times of year. In the fall, we enjoy seeing the beautiful foliage around our home, apple picking at nearby orchards, going to corn mazes and pumpkin patches with friends and family and spending evenings by the fire pit. In the Winter, we love going to camp. We're able to ice-fish from the comfort of camp and go sledding (snowmobile) on the hundreds of miles of trails nearby. There's always something to do!

We have 3 pets! Lucy is our cat, Hanky is our fawn pug and Goose the black pug.

These love bugs have brought so much fun and joy to our lives. When babysitting the children and infants of our friends, both dogs assume very different roles and responsibilities. Hanky becomes the protector, constantly watching and ensuring that the children are safe from threats, such as leaves and ladybugs. Goose, on the other hand, takes on the role of best dog pal; kisses and endless playing. We love watching the pugs interact with children and we couldn't ask for more loving pets.







Family

Tyler's family! His mom, brother, and sister



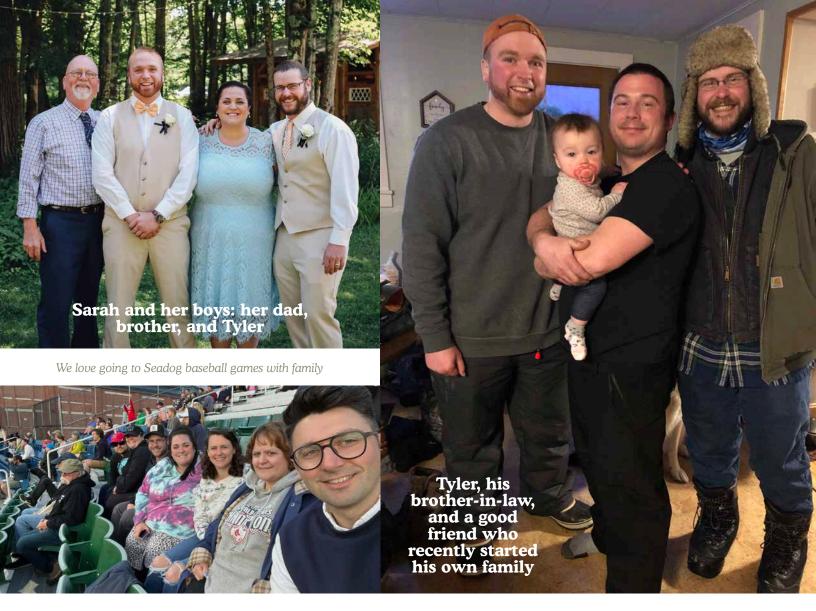
One year, Santa (Sarah's brother) visited!



Tyler with his brother and brother-in-law

Our family is beyond excited for this journey we're on!

Tyler has a large and diverse extended family, some living across the world, others just down the road. One Aunt just moved back to Thailand, a cousin lives in Iceland and one cousin and their adopted daughter live just 5 minutes down the road. The best thing about Tyler's family is, they are always up for a get together, whether it's a baseball game, the theater, a trip to the beach, a family vacation or quick get-away to Florida for the weekend, they're always down for some family fun. We love spending time at Sarah's family's camp; fishing, hunting, adventures on the side-by-side, swimming, ice-fishing and sledding in the winter. Sarah is very close with both her father and brother, which is perfect, because they only live 15 minutes down the road. Sarah's father stops by often for a "pug party," as he has 2 pugs of his own. It's a great chance for us all to visit and catch up, pugs and all. Sarah's father has been dreaming of grandchildren for years and can't wait to have a new "side kick."





We go all out for Christmas!

The holidays are very big in our family and we look forward to it all year long.

October, November and December are pretty magical times at our house. Sarah starts thinking about holiday plans around July- yes, July. Our holiday traditions start in the fall and include holiday baking for friends and community members, harvesting the crop, festive sweaters and hats, going to Christmas shows, baking holiday goodies and singing Christmas Carols by the fire. It may sound corny, but it's pretty fabulous. This family doesn't stop with Christmas, we decorate our house for every holiday. We think its fun to be festive and we love looking forward to the different holidays and seasons.

Parenting

Tyler and I both have a great appreciation for family and the outdoors. We would love to instill these values in our child. We know that this is not something that we can force; this can only be done through positive experiences. We hope to provide countless opportunities for our child to build life-long memories of family get togethers, fishing trips, vacations, weekends at camp and holiday gatherings. We both have fond and loving memories growing up, and we want to provide the same for our child. Exploring the great outdoors is one of the greatest gifts to a child; it promotes imagination, creativity and a sense of independence. We want to raise our child to be a confident problem solver who is compassionate and self reliant. As teachers, we know that when children feel loved, supported and believed in, they grow to love themselves and believe in themselves. That is what we want for our child.

Even though Maine is not a very diverse state, Tyler's extended family is quite diverse. He has aunts from Thailand and the Philippines. Tyler's Aunt from Thailand makes traditional Thai dishes at family gatherings and is the favorite family chef. Many of Tyler's family members live all over the US, including California, New York and Philadelphia. Tyler's cousin, who lives down the road, adopted a child from Guatemala and had a very positive experience. We recognize and embrace the positive experiences that can come from an open adoption. We plan on making adoption a part of our child's story from the very beginning.

As teachers, Tyler and I have interacted with thousands of children. We see the value in raising children in a stable 2 parent household, with very involved extended family members. We believe that the love and support that comes from a large, close-knit family is immeasurable. Given the huge role our family plays in our life, we plan on instilling the same family values with our children.



Date of marriage: 8/11/2011

Interests and hobbies: Together, we love traveling, going to camp, ATVing, boating, gardening and going to the beach. Sarah loves baking, cooking, and crafting. Tyler loves fishing, hiking, hunting, carpentry and reading.

Home: We live in a saltbox style home on 6 acres, in a rural waterfront community just outside the city. Our home has a large open floor plan, so our house is the go-to for most family and holiday gatherings. We have a fire pit, snowmobile trails, a huge front yard, gardens, and wild berries growing all over the property.

Pets: We have one fawn pug (Hanky), one black pug (Goose), and a black cat (Lucy).

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption? Infertility led us to adoption. When Tyler was a teenager, he and his girlfriend made the selfless choice to find a forever home for their newborn. We feel it is somehow part of our destiny: here we are now, offering a loving forever home to another child.

Openness to birthparent(s): Given Tyler's experience with adoption as a birthparent, we know first hand the sensitivity and importance of the relationship between birth parents and adoptive parents. We simply want everyone involved to be comfortable and happy with the arrangements.

Childcare plans: Sarah plans on taking a significant amount of time off after placement. Then time will be split between day-care and family members. As teachers, we have 15 weeks of vacation a year.

Thank you so much for taking the time to learn about us and our journey.

We believe that everything happens for a reason. There's a reason why Tyler went through the adoption process, there's a reason why we experienced infertility; it has all brought us here. If you feel a connection to us, it's for a reason. We can assure you that if you choose us as your child's forever family, your child will be showered with love and will know the amazing journey that led them to where they are. If you would like to get to know us more, or have any questions, please reach out.

