



Sarah and Dong

#2095803



Hello!

Thank you
for taking
the time
to get to
know us!

We know this may be overwhelming, but we are beyond grateful that you would consider us in this process. Although we don't know your story yet, we support you, and we know you are capable of making these big decisions. During this time, we pray that you have the space to ask questions and that all your decisions are honored. In the following pages, we hope you get a sense of our daily lives, our love for each other, and our passion for adoption.



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN



Doug has his private plane license! On this day, we flew to St. Simons Island for barbecue ribs.

Before we met, Doug was learning to fly helicopters for the Army in lower Alabama and Sarah was working the night shift as a nurse in Birmingham. Our mutual friends insisted that we meet, so Doug drove three hours to take Sarah on a date. Distance was a constant part of our dating life, as Doug moved further and further away due to his job in the Army. It may sound odd, but we missed doing mundane chores like laundry together. No matter how small the task, we just enjoy each other's company. Once we were married, we were thrilled to finally live in the same city! We knew that as we grew our family being together would have to be our priority, so Doug decided to leave his job as a Black Hawk pilot to pursue a career in business. We knew this path would allow us to stay together as a family while also providing us opportunities to serve others. Early on in our relationship we connected over our shared values. We spoke often about faith and service and always felt like we were on the same page. We talked about adoption on our third date, and we have been praying for this day ever since!

My Wife Sarah

TOLD BY
DOUG

Sarah is the light of my life. Our son would have something similar to say if he had a bigger vocabulary. For now, his favorite word, "Mama," will have to serve as a stand-in. Mama. Mama. Mama. Sarah's everything that word represents and so much more. She's steady in the good times and the bad. Whether I have a rough day at work or Rye scrapes his knee on the playground, Sarah's there to pick us up. She somehow manages to take care of us on top of keeping people alive in the operating room. She's an incredible woman, handling more than her share with poise, grace, and strength. Every night, I pray that sleep will pass quickly so I can see her again and every morning I thank God I get to spend another day with her.

Sarah is uniquely gifted with discernment. She always seems to know what the right path is. I seek her counsel constantly and many of our friends do too. Sarah is also exceptionally gifted in design. She makes cookies and cakes that would make Parisian chefs jealous and she can make any house a home. However, her love is what really makes these things special. Our home is wherever she is.



Sarah loves taking Rye out on the trails! Luckily, we have some amazing hikes close to home.





Sarah is the head chef of the Oss household. She loves researching and making new recipes.



Sarah appreciates travel and new experiences. On this trip we took a sleigh ride through the Teton mountains.



FAVORITE FOOD
Sushi



FAVORITE SONG
I Want to Dance with Somebody
by Whitney Houston



PERFECT SATURDAY
Cinnamon rolls followed by a
long hike in the mountains.



A CITY YOU LOVE
Savannah, GA



FAVORITE BOOK
Pride and Prejudice



FAVORITE PODCAST
Stuff You Should Know



FAVORITE SPORT
Football. War Eagle!



FAVORITE DESSERT
A warm chocolate chip cookie.
But anything chocolate will do!



CURRENT GOAL YOU'RE
WORKING TOWARDS
Getting stronger! I love lifting
heavy weights at the gym.



GREATEST FEAR
Public speaking. My whole body shakes!



Doug and Rye love to greet the neighbors from our front porch.



My Husband Doug

**TOLD BY
SARAH**

Bragging about my husband is my favorite hobby. You will never meet anyone quite like him. Doug has the unique ability to be both the life of the party and everyone's most trusted confidant. Doug effortlessly makes conversations light-hearted and fun. At the same time, he is able to engage deeply with people in quiet, intimate settings. It's this rare emotional intellect that makes Doug an amazing leader. As an Army officer, Doug was consistently ranked highly because of his dedication to his soldiers. On many occasions, Doug's soldiers confessed that they left every conversation with Doug feeling like they mattered. Now, as Doug is completing his master's degree at Harvard, his classmates express a similar sentiment.

This investment and dedication to others doesn't compare to Doug's love for our son. Our son is Doug's entire world. Doug is the type of dad who will lay on the ground and play endlessly. He puts in the extra effort to make every moment with Rye a cherished memory. I am beyond grateful that because of Doug's committed and doting nature, our children will never question their worth or the love of their father. I am blessed beyond measure to call him mine.



FAVORITE FOOD
Chicken wings



FAVORITE MOVIE
Remember the Titans



FAVORITE SONG
Son of a Preacher Man by Dusty Springfield



PERFECT SATURDAY
A long hike followed by a big breakfast,
including pancakes.



FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY
Watching my dad dunk on some college kids
during a pickup basketball game.



A CITY YOU LOVE
Ouray, Colorado



FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL
Math



FAVORITE PODCAST
Crime Junkie



UNUSUAL SKILL
I can solve a Rubik's cube in less than 60 seconds.



WORST DATE MOMENT
Went on my first "real date" the day I turned 16 and
got my driver's license. I got pulled over and totally
crumbled. That was my first and last date with Breanne.



You can often find Doug by a fire, reading books or roasting s'mores with Rye.



Doug has climbed mountains all over the world, including this one in Norway!



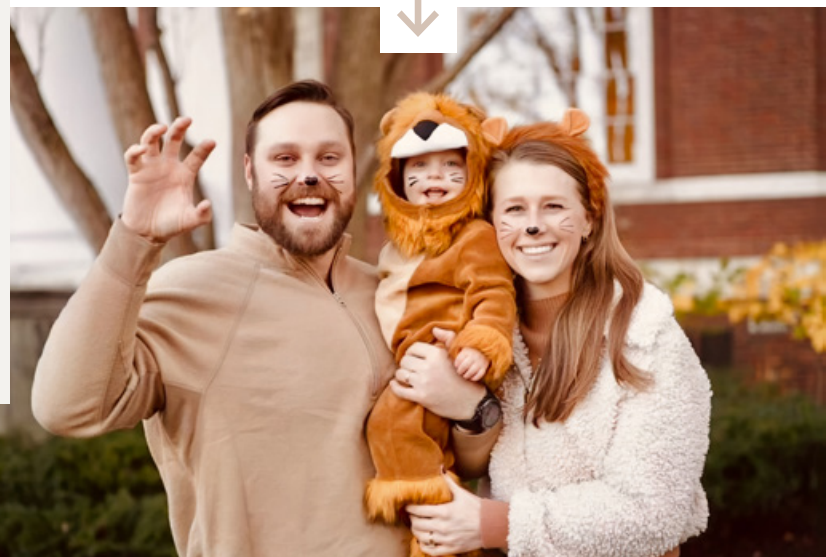
Our Son Rye



Rye is our only child and has taught us so much about parenting!

We have loved every minute of watching him grow and seeing his little personality develop. Right now, he enjoys running, blueberries, and greeting strangers (who are often too distracted to see his desperate waving). Rye is a social butterfly, so we know he will be thrilled to have a baby brother or sister to babble with.

Sarah loved The Lion King as a kid and is not influencing Rye at all...





CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

ONE
Watching Home Alone

TWO
Baking Christmas cookies for our neighbors

THREE
Making cinnamon rolls on Christmas morning

FOUR
Attending the Christmas Eve service at our church

FIVE
Decorating a random tree on a hike!



Sarah grew up making homemade cinnamon rolls every Christmas morning and has continued that tradition with Rye.



Each year we decorate a random tree in the woods for others to find and enjoy. It has become our favorite Christmas tradition!

Where We Live

We visit the same orchard each fall where we pick our own apples and devour the best apple cider donuts.



We currently live in Boston, Massachusetts, where we enjoy our fair share of Dunkin' Donuts.

We love being surrounded by the history of our country, while also being close to amazing beaches and ski towns! In New England, we are able to enjoy the perfect fall weather as we watch the leaves change, pick apples at a local orchard, and hike up the coast of Maine.

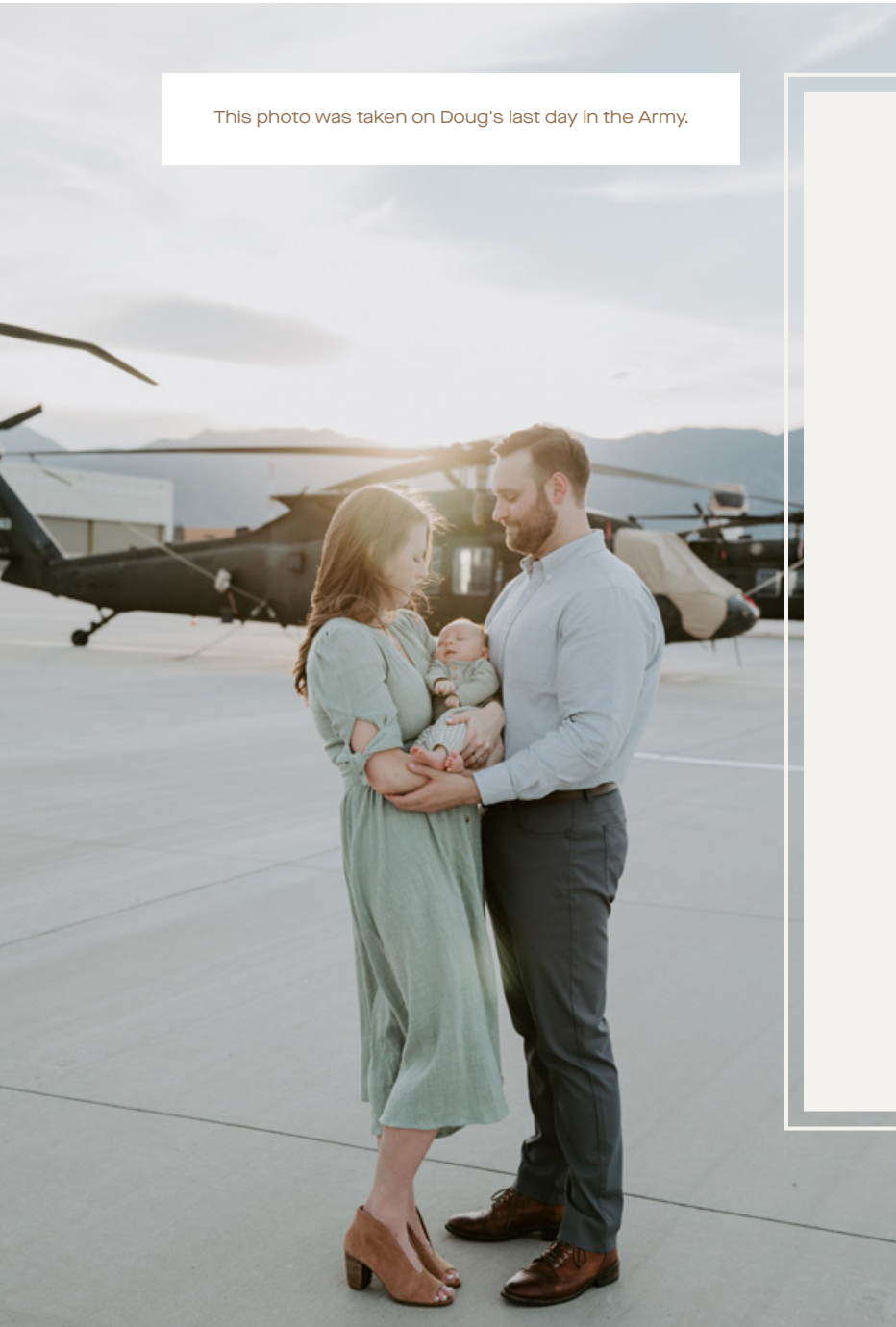
Our home in Boston is on the Harvard Business School campus. It's a special community, as our neighbors are young families from all over the world! We have learned so much from this diverse group of people. We often spend the mornings with Rye and his toddler friends at the playground, race around campus with the Scooter Club, and have picnics in front of the library in the evenings.

We believe that
there is no
greater cause than
to live your life in
service to others.



We recently visited our close friends in Nepal where we were able to work alongside their anti-human trafficking organization.

This photo was taken on Doug's last day in the Army.



SERVICE TO OTHERS

We've had the incredible privilege to live all over the United States due to the military. We've met people from all over the world and from every imaginable background. And the more we've traveled, the more we've realized how fortunate we are to have our parents. We know we are who we are and we are where we are because of the people who were willing to walk with us and guide us. We aspire to be the type of family that others can count on to walk with them and we are excited for our kids to grow up seeking out ways to serve others. Our greatest hope is for them to know that they can have a positive impact on others.



Our Family



Claire and Sarah are only 16 months apart and have always been very close.



Doug's family loves spending quality time together, whether that's chatting over a delicious meal or playing a game of dominos.



Sarah's family is incredibly supportive, but they can't go too long without someone cracking a joke.

Our family is so excited for us to welcome a new baby into our home! Sarah's parents visit Boston regularly and are known to spoil Rye immediately upon arrival. Sarah is also very close to her older sister who is expecting her first baby! Doug's parents live in Missouri, although his dad is from Washington and his mom is from Long Island. Doug's dad and both of his grandfathers were pastors, so Doug is the rebel who decided to join the military. Doug has a younger brother, an older sister, and four beautiful nieces. While our family lives out of state, we are blessed to be able to visit them often and always have a room ready for them in Boston. Our family really stepped in to help when our son was born and we couldn't have made it through those long, sleepless nights without them. We also have an incredible group of friends ready to support us in our neighborhood and our local church. They have been there for us emotionally, through long conversations and prayer, as well as physically, bringing us meals when we are sick. Since we moved around with the Army, we were able to make friends all over the United States who are also supporting us along this journey. We are so thankful to have a fun and reliable group of friends in both the local area and across the country. Along with our families, we have a solid network to care for and encourage us.

Our friend group is a constant source of encouragement and laughter.



On Parenting



We both grew up with parents who sacrificed a lot for us, generously giving their time, attention, and love. Their dedication to us and our siblings made a lasting impact on us and has shaped the way we want to raise our children. Sarah's mom used to say that any time a child says "Mama, watch me!" you have the chance to show them your love with just one second of undivided attention. We want to be there for every "watch me" moment so that our children know how much we adore them, even in the small moments. We believe that by being present and involved we can show our children how much we care, learn more about them, and help to guide them towards success. Even though life can get busy, we choose to put our family first. By doing so, we hope to create a home where our children feel like they are fully known and abundantly loved.

ON DIVERSITY

We are open to and excited about the prospect of transracial adoption, recognizing the crucial role that culture plays in shaping a child's identity. We are committed to ensuring that cultural heritage is not just acknowledged, but actively celebrated within our family. It is important to us that your child understands their origins and the profound, loving decision you made in this process. Because of the military, we've always had a diverse friend group. Your baby will grow up with close family friends and positive role models that look like them. We want to assure you that in our family, your child will always know they are loved unconditionally, respected for who they are, and empowered by their unique story.

ON OPEN ADOPTION

While we hope our child has an open relationship with their birth family, we understand each adoption is different and we want to hear from you what you want that openness to look like. For our part, we promise to always honor our commitments to you and maintain your trust. Our hearts and home are open, and we are eager to include you in our family's story in whatever way feels right for you.





FATHER'S NAME

Doug

OCCUPATION

Business Executive

EDUCATION

West Point

Harvard Business School (Master's)

RELIGION

Christian

DATE OF BIRTH

February 11, 1992

HAIR COLOR

Brown

EYE COLOR

Blue

HEIGHT

6'2"



MOTHER'S NAME

Sarah

OCCUPATION

Nurse Anesthesiologist

EDUCATION

Auburn University

Samford University (Master's)

RELIGION

Christian

DATE OF BIRTH

March 18, 1992

HAIR COLOR

Strawberry Blonde

EYE COLOR

Green

HEIGHT

5'6"

FAMILY INFORMATION

Date of marriage → July 3, 2018. We were married in a park in Savannah, Georgia just a few days after Doug returned from his first deployment to Afghanistan.

Children → Our son, Rye, was born June 5, 2022 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He loves meeting new people and waving excitedly at strangers. He is a super outgoing little boy and it has been amazing exploring the world with him.

Interests and hobbies → We both love spending time outdoors, traveling, and trying new restaurants. Doug enjoys leatherworking, baking bread, and teaching Rye how to throw a ball. Sarah enjoys reading, cooking (gourmet meals, according to Doug), and working out.

Home → We live in a 3-bedroom, split-level apartment on the Harvard Business School campus. Our home is just 25 yards from a massive playground and a two-minute walking commute for Doug to class.

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption? We talked about adoption on our third date and have been praying for this day ever since. There are very few circumstances in life that can take a difficult or confusing situation and create life-giving joy, but we are firm believers that adoption has the power to do that for birth families and adoptive families alike.

Openness to birthparent(s) → We hope our adopted child has an open relationship with their birth family. We understand each adoption is different and we want to hear from you what you want that openness to look like. We want to care for you in the best way possible and nurture your relationship by scheduling visits and calls and sending pictures and letters.

Childcare plans → After our son was born, Sarah took six months off from work to focus on him. She's now working two days per week while our son attends a Spanish-speaking daycare. Sarah plans on taking another six months off from work after the adoption before considering whether returning to work is best for our children.

Thank you!



We want to express our deepest gratitude for considering us in this significant decision. The courage and love you've shown in exploring adoption are truly admirable, and we're humbled you took the time to read our profile. We understand this journey is filled with complex emotions and decisions; we want to assure you, if you decide to move forward with adoption, your child will be loved unconditionally and will understand the profound, sacrificial decision you made in this process. Our hearts and home are open, and we are eager to include you in our family's story in whatever way feels right for you. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us, and please know that we are here to support and honor your choices every step of the way.