



ERIC + KENNA

#2105100



HELLO

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us. We can only imagine the strength, love, and courage it takes to consider an adoption plan, and we want you to know how deeply we respect you. Adoption is near and dear to our hearts as both of us have been shaped by nontraditional families ourselves, molded through an abundance of love and care to be where we are today. If chosen, we promise to offer your child a home filled with love, laughter, stability, and support.

Most of all, we want you to know that your child would be cherished every single day. We have so much love to give, and a large support system of friends and family who are ready to welcome a new family member with open arms! We are grateful for the possibility of being part of your journey and hold you in our hearts as you make this decision.

With respect and gratitude,

ERIC + KENNA

“Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope.”

- Maya Angelou -



OUR STORY

We met in Flagstaff, Arizona in the beginning of 2011 when we were both attending Northern Arizona University. We graduated one semester apart from each other, and upon Kenna's graduation, she moved to Phoenix with Eric and firmly made roots in Arizona. We are each other's best friends and love to share our experiences and countless adventures together. One thing that drew us to each other was that we both believe that "family" can be defined in many ways, and it can also come in limitless forms, shapes, and sizes. We are hopeful that we will be able to grow our family a bit more through adoption.

We were married in 2016 in a small ceremony in the mountains of Flagstaff surrounded by 30 of our family and friends. We went on to buy our home in a quiet, suburban neighborhood of Phoenix. We enjoy spending time outdoors and enjoying the many months of beautiful weather in Arizona. We love camping, going for hikes, and walking our puppy, Penny. On the weekends, we enjoy spending time with our friends, going out to dinner, to the movies, or having game nights together. During the week, Kenna works at the local elementary school as a special education teacher and Eric works as a financial analyst and is fortunate to have the opportunity to work from home. This allows for plenty of time for family activities during the week.

MEET KENNA

I spent my childhood in a smaller town in Southern Arizona, being raised by my grandparents. They adopted me as an infant and I knew them as Mom and Dad. I was fortunate in the experiences I was able to have as a child. My parents had the opportunity to allow me to try many different activities from music lessons and various sports, to art classes and horseback riding. This allowed me to develop my love for being creative, either through painting, drawing, or even refinishing antique furniture. I found my love for reading from a very young age, often preferring a good book over watching television. To this day, you will rarely find me without a book. I spent my childhood working in the nursery at church, or babysitting my younger cousins. This led to my passion for working with children. I love my job as a special education teacher more than anything. Seeing the pride and joy on a child's face when they reach a new milestone is so rewarding. Growing up, my mother was my best friend and that continued into adulthood. She taught me love, patience, and respect for others. She made sure that I knew hard work and contributed around the home, but at the same time, our days spent doing chores were also filled with music and laughter. She taught me to love dancing, even if we weren't very good at it. I am forever grateful for her and the lessons she taught me. Because of her, I have always wanted to be a mother, in whatever way that was meant to happen.

What Eric Loves About Kenna

Kenna is the most loving and caring person you could ever meet. She is kind and compassionate, and always thinking of others' feelings. She wears her heart on her sleeve, and exemplifies this by listening, laughing, and communicating her emotions directly. She is an introvert, and can be reserved when first meeting someone, but open up the doors and the friendship and happiness come pouring out! She will make a fantastic mother, making sure every child knows that they are important, and that they are loved.





FUN FACTS

I love to travel to new places, and try new foods.

Harry Potter is my favorite movie series and I will watch them all multiple times a year.

I know how to ride a motorcycle and love watching motorcycle racing either on TV or in person.

I have read over 500 books in the last 5 years. My goal is to reach 1,000.

I grew up competing in horseback riding events, and playing softball.

MEET ERIC

I grew up in a small farm town in the Finger Lakes region of New York. I was the youngest of a large blended family that included my five brothers and a sister. Being part of a large family taught me many life lessons, such as patience, sharing, doing my share of work, communicating to make my voice heard, and most importantly, respect and love. With such a busy house, I preferred to spend as much of my time outdoors as I could, hanging out with friends, riding bikes, skateboarding, building makeshift boats to (not-so-successfully) take on the Erie Canal, but my favorite hobby was always sports. Very competitive, I was a six sport athlete in high school, competing in varsity lacrosse, football, wrestling, track & field, swimming & diving, and golf, though I was a particularly gifted lacrosse player. These sports helped me gain skills of leadership, persistence, acceptance of failures and victories, and really taught me to be motivated in anything I set out to achieve. In my downtime, I tended to find myself enjoying the interests of the “nerdier” genres; video games, sci-fi movies, comic books, anime, and embarrassingly, learning new concepts about numbers and mathematics. I still continue to be as active as possible, trying to make it out for a few miles a day with my dog, and even preparing for a half-marathon in January. My “nerd” interests have stuck with me, and I spend too much time learning random facts and sharing them with anyone that gives me the chance. My passion for learning has been key to my career successes where I get to learn about many industries and companies that many would never know existed and then applying my passion for numbers. It is truly something I enjoy to call my profession, but will always come second to my passion for being home, spending time with my family.

What Kenna Loves About Eric

Eric is the greatest person in the entire world! He always makes me feel so loved and accepted for exactly who I am. He brings an infectious sense of joy and excitement to everything we do, which makes even the most simple of tasks enjoyable. He keeps me laughing every day, filling our home with singing, dancing, and humor. I can't wait to see him in his new role as a father, sharing his sense of adventure, joy, and compassion with our future children. He is going to make the best dad.





FUN FACTS

I am a certified scuba diver and have dove many ship wrecks in various bodies of water.

I go on an Annual Trip of the Erics with my best friend (also Eric) trying to see every NFL stadium in the country.

I am a Jeopardy and trivia enthusiast who has acquired a vast amount of fun facts and have dreams of making it on the show one day.

I'm a sneakerhead and I've got a large collection of Jordans.

I'm an adventure seeker and have been white water rafting and sky diving.

OUR PETS

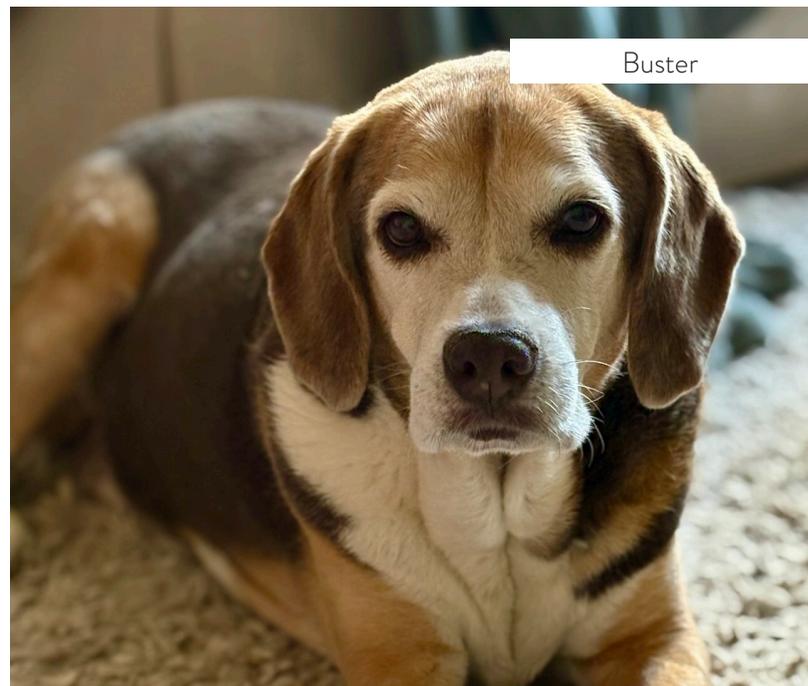
We are animal lovers through and through and have always had pets—growing up, through college, and into our adult lives. Currently, we have one cat, Bentley, who joined our family in 2014. We knew Bentley was meant to be ours when he jumped right into a chair with Kenna and our previous dog during a visit to the shelter. Now that he's older, he spends most of his days napping in sunny spots and begging for treats, which we rarely deny.

We also have our old beagle, Buster, who originally belonged to Kenna's parents and later came to live with us after their passing. Buster has worked through a lot in his life and, while he still has some anxiety about being outside the house, he has come a very long way. He is a sweet old boy who loves laying in the grass, occasionally getting the zoomies in the backyard, and relaxing in his dog bed. Our home is often a gathering place for friends and family with babies and young children, and Buster is gentle and calm around them, happily accepting scratches and belly rubs.

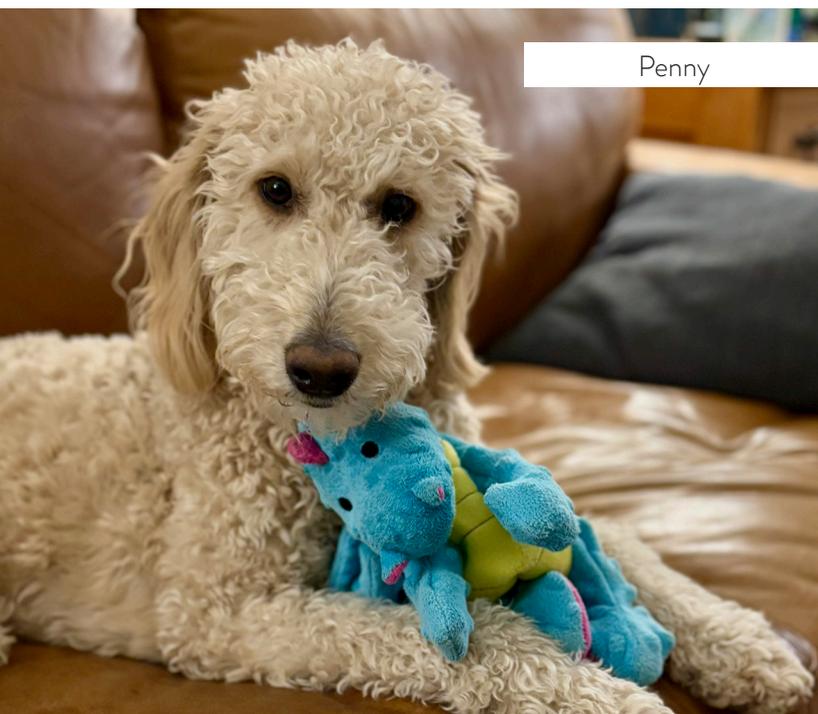
Finally, we have our puppy, Penny, who was a surprise for Eric while he was out of state on a trip. Kenna brought her home from a neighbor whose dog had an unexpected litter, knowing Penny would quickly become Eric's best friend—and she was right. Penny was our first experience raising a puppy, and while it was a lot of work, it has been a joy watching her learn and grow. She is a happy, affectionate dog who loves people, children, playing with her stuffed animals, running with toddlers in the backyard, and going on daily walks. Penny has recently discovered a love for the lake, along with car rides, hanging her head out the window, and chasing bunnies whenever she gets the chance.



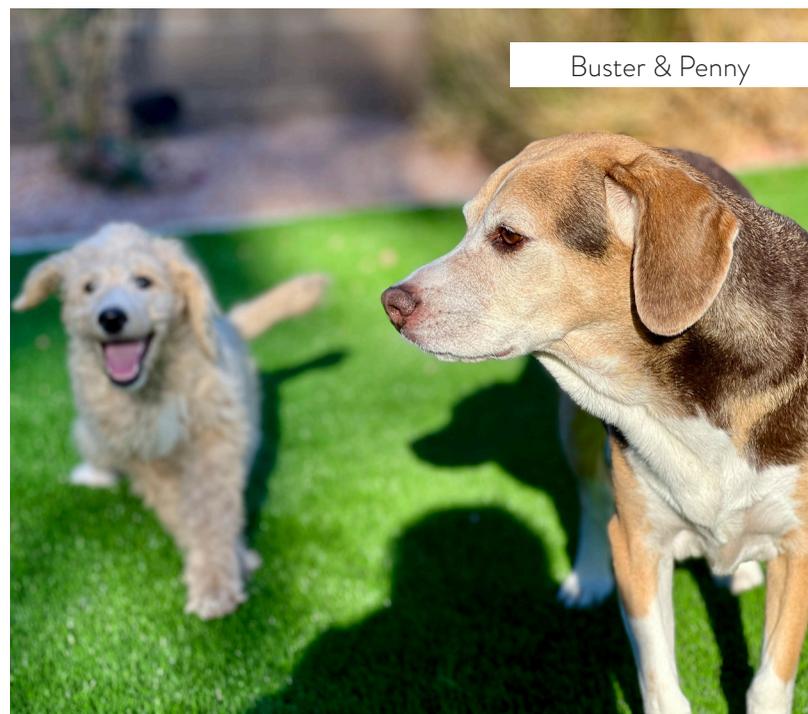
Bentley



Buster



Penny



Buster & Penny



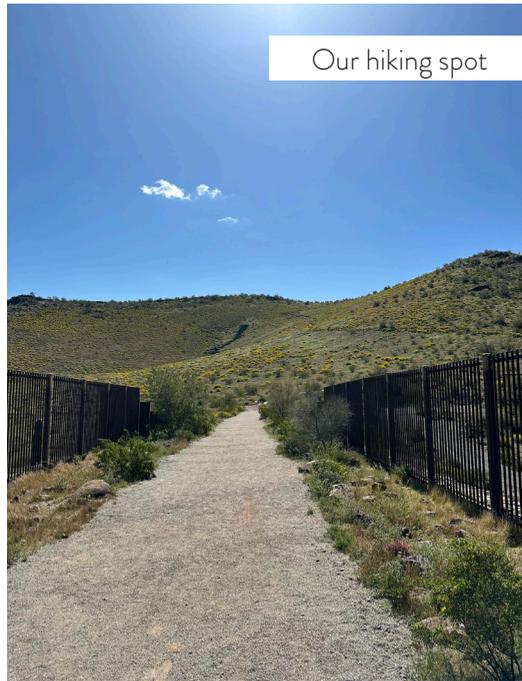
Our home



Our backyard



Local lake



Our hiking spot



OUR HOME & COMMUNITY

We live in central Arizona, in a suburb of a larger city. Our neighborhood is beautiful, full of families with young children, and nestled in between the mountains. We have a three bedroom home with a great backyard with lots of room to run and play, or throw a ball around. We are working on our green thumbs and slowly building up our landscaping. This has recently become an interest of ours.

Our neighborhood has an amazing A rated elementary school that is walking distance from our home. Kenna actually worked at this school for years! We live close by to large parks and sports fields where the neighborhood children spend their evening playing, or families can be found using the basketball, pickleball, and tennis courts.

We also live within 15 minutes from our local lake that offers watersports, hiking trails, and picnic areas. Also in our surrounding area are waterparks, farmers' markets, and libraries. Our city is home to a major league baseball team and we love getting to go to Spring Training games as well as regular season games. About 30 minutes from us are many museums that appeal to families, such as the art museum, natural history museum, and children's museum, as well as multiple zoos and aquariums. There is so much for people to do!

FAMILY + FRIENDS

We are fortunate that we are surrounded by a large 'family' made up of not only relatives, but many, many friends. We have a large number of friends who are considered family, whose children call us Aunt and Uncle, and who will become an aunt and uncle to our future children. A few of our family and friends have even moved out to Arizona from the East coast, allowing us to be even closer. We have a nephew who lives a short drive away who will love getting another cousin to play with. We always celebrate holidays and birthdays together, with friends and family, either at one of our homes, or out at a restaurant. We are lucky that we are usually the ones who host large gatherings, whether it is a family/friends game night, Thanksgiving or Christmas, or just a summer BBQ. Recently, we had all our friends and family over and set up a big waterslide for all the kids to play on. We love having our home filled with the joy and laughter of our family.

Outside of our local friends and family, we also have many friends and family all over the country. We always make a point to get together with out of state friends and family, whether it be on an annual trip with our friends from New Mexico, or family reunions with our East coast family members. We typically will spend a couple of weeks every summer driving out to Colorado to spend time with friends and family there. We are fortunate that our work schedules allow this kind of flexibility and opportunity to travel often.



Visiting Sedona with Kenna's family



Kenna and her cousins



Beach vacation with friends



Luau with our nieces and nephews



Annual international trip with our friends



Annual trip to a new stadium each year



Eric and his brother



Hiking South Korea with our friend



Fly fishing with family in Colorado



Pumpkin patch with our friends' son



Camping with friends



At a football game with our nephew



Eric is always cooking in the kitchen

FAMILY TRADITIONS

Sundays in our family are called Salsa Sundays! We will make some sort of salsa or guacamole to snack on throughout the week. We love trying new recipes for salsas.

For Christmas, we go see Zoolights in December at the local zoo. Every Christmas Eve we fill up mugs with hot cocoa and drive around looking at Christmas lights, and every Christmas day we get Chinese food for lunch, and go see a movie at the theater.

We host a big BBQ on NFL kickoff as well as our annual Superbowl Party.

We have monthly game nights with our friends & family, either playing a group board game, party game like Charades, or video games like Mario Party.

We don't have children of our own yet, and can't wait to come up with new traditions as a family that will create lasting memories!



Eric can be found on the golf course



Kenna loves searching antique stores



Kenna always has a book nearby



Eric lining up his shot in pool



Eric enjoys building LEGO's



Eric is an amazing woodworker

HOBBIES + FUN

We have been very fortunate that we have been able to travel both domestically as well as internationally. Here are a few of our favorites!

Coastal California/Redwood Forest Trip- For our one year anniversary, we took a road trip up the coast of California, staying in a quaint bed and breakfast in our absolute favorite town of Monterey, California, then spending a few days camping in the Redwood forest where we were able to see the Avenue of the Giants, and ending our trip with an overnight stay in San Francisco.

Seoul, South Korea- One of our best friends, Joe, moved to his family's hometown of Seoul, South Korea. We were so lucky to be able to make a trip out there to experience the culture and cuisine of a new country. We both agree that Korea has some of the best food we have ever eaten! This trip was full of cultural experiences, visiting Buddhist temples, navigating the subway system, and climbing to the top of Namsan Tower.

Rocky Point/Cancun/Yucatán, Mexico- We travel on an annual trip with our friends who live out of state, typically visiting a new part of Mexico each year. We recently went with them to Cancun & Yucatán where we were able to take a tour of famous Mayan sites, including Chichen Itza, as well as swim in an ancient cenote, and learn the culture of the ancient Mayans.

Oahu, Hawaii- We are very fortunate that Eric's eldest brother and his family live in Oahu, Hawaii. This gives us an excuse to go visit them. We recently went for a trip to the islands and were able to take a UTV tour of Kualoa Ranch, where many popular movie scenes have been filmed, hike to local waterfalls, enjoy our nieces and nephews experiencing their first luau, and eating the most delicious Hawaiian shaved ice.



Enjoying time outdoors



Relaxing with art



Sailing!



Visiting South Korea



Chichen Itza in Mexico



On our trip to South Korea



Riding UTV's in Hawaii



Visiting family in Hawaii

PARENTING & ADOPTION

As we look to become parents, we believe parenting is not about us, it is about our child and the family together. We plan to raise a strong, loving, and happy child that knows they are loved at every moment of their lives. We want to make sure they can see all the ways they are loved in this world, they can see all the people that love them, and they can embrace that love to help enrich their lives in their journey through life. We know that not everything can, nor will, go according to plan, and we want to use those detours as opportunities to teach patience, gratitude, and grace. We believe teaching these characteristics, and filling a child's life with love and safety translates to a person who will grow to do good unto the world.

Our backgrounds have been filled with unique circumstances, distant travels, and open hearts that have allowed us to fill our lives with a very diverse and eclectic 'family' that ranges beyond our biological ties. We share experiences and partake in the celebration of many cultures that make up our family, and we know that culture is as important to one's identity as the person they see in the mirror. With our vast family of many backgrounds, we know we have a support net to immerse our child in the cultures that makes them feel rooted in where they belong while being part of our loving family.

As we said before, as we raise our child, we want to make sure they are loved, and that they are able to see all the love they are receiving from the world, at all times. Love from the people around them, their friends, their culture, our family, and also you. We also want our child to know who they are, where they come from, why they may be tall, or short, or why their eyelashes are long, or why their hair falls or stands a certain way, or whatever it may be that they see in themselves; we want them to know themselves, and part of that is rooted in our desire to have an open adoption with you. Maintaining communication, sharing photos, and being part of this child's life in a healthy and thoughtful capacity is part of what we believe will help make the most beautiful life for this child.



FAMILY INFORMATION



Mother's Name:
Kenna

Occupation:
Special Education Teacher

Education:
**Bachelor's of Education-
Elementary and Special Education**

Religion:
None

Date of birth:
04/29/1990

Hair Color:
Brown

Eye Color:
Brown

Height:
5' 4"



Father's Name:
Eric

Occupation:
Financial Analyst

Education:
**Bachelor's of Science and Business Administration-
Finance, Marketing**

Religion:
None

Date of birth:
03/06/1990

Hair Color:
Brown

Eye Color:
Brown

Height:
5' 10"

Date of marriage: 06/04/2016

Children: None

Interest and hobbies: Eric has a passion for sports, often going out for a walk/run for a few miles a day, or playing games with his friends. He enjoys hobbies such as building LEGO, learning new facts, watching sci-fi and anime, and woodworking in the garage. Kenna enjoys reading daily, as well as anything creative, including painting, drawing, working with clay, or redecorating our home. As a couple we enjoy going to find new restaurants or taking day trips to lesser known Arizona landmarks. We often escape to the mountains of Flagstaff, where we met, to enjoy the unique climate and crisp air of Northern Arizona. Throughout the year we will also take 'bigger' trips and enjoy traveling a lot. Whether meeting up in a new city with friends, visiting them where they live, or even going to an international destination, we enjoy seeing new places and experiencing new things together.

Home: We live in a peaceful neighborhood at the end of the street across from a big field and highly-rated elementary school. Our home is a cozy three-bedroom, two-bathroom home we've enjoyed for about six years. It's nestled at the bottom of a couple mountains that wrap around the neighborhood, filled with greenbelt walking paths and mountain hiking trails. It's a spacious place, with plenty of room to expand our family. Our neighborhood is quiet and safe, but one of our favorite parts is that although it is a suburb of a large city, we still can see plenty of stars from our back yard thanks to the embracing mountains surrounding us. It's a very familial neighborhood. Families are riding their bikes in groups, taking their pets for walks, and even stopping to chat with the neighbors. Although we are in a large city, it really feels like a small town in our little community. Our absolute favorite part of our neighborhood comes through the holiday seasons, as our neighborhood is noted for being a great place for halloween, thanksgiving, and christmas decorations. An important tradition for us we plan to continue as our family expands is making hot chocolate and going out on Christmas Eve to see all the different decorations.

Pets: We have two charismatic dogs, Buster the Beagle (12) and Penny the Goldendoodle (2), and a talkative cat, Bentley (11). Although Buster and Bentley have slowed down and appreciate spending their times napping on the couch or in our laps, Penny is still running on puppy-time at just two years old! She loves to go on her long walks with Eric, and she has never forgotten a single place that she saw a bunny. The dogs, although notable alarm systems whenever anyone knocks or rings the doorbell, love when we have company. Penny absolutely loves our toddler nephew and enjoys following him around to be his best friend. Buster and Bentley, well, they nap!

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption: As circumstance would have it, we are not able to have our own biological children. However, regardless of this, we've always made plans to adopt children to expand our family as well. Both Kenna and Eric were part of some form of blended family, and know how much love there is to be given and to be received as part of a bigger family. We both uniquely and passionately know our experiences with having both biological and nonbiological families, and we know how important these dynamics are for children as they grow up. We know that we can honor the trust a birth family would have choosing us to love, raise, and cherish their child and want nothing more than to share our abundance of love as we expand our family.

Openness to birthparent(s): We've spent a lot of time reflecting about what openness could look like in our adoption journey. It's deeply important to us that the birth family feels valued and connected. We hope to share regular updates—through photos, letters, phone calls, or emails—as the child grows, and may be open to in-person visits, especially for special milestones and moments, as time passes. Our desire is to build a relationship that feels real and supportive for our child, and part of that is having a connection to where they came from. We truly believe that openness can be a beautiful way to expand our family and give the child a deeper understanding of who they are and how deeply they are loved.

Childcare plans: We are planning to have hybrid childcare schedules. Eric works from home and has very early hours, as well as extensive flexibility so he will be the primary caregiver during the days and able to care for the child in the afternoons. Kenna, as a teacher, gets summers off, so will have full availability for a large portion of the year to take care of the child. During the school year, when Eric may be busy or scheduled to go into the office, his mother lives just a few miles away and is already an experienced babysitter with her grandson also located just across town. With the many family members surrounding us, in addition to our very flexible schedules, we will have no problem being able to have family caring for the child at all times.



THANK YOU

Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know us. We understand that you are making an incredibly important and emotional decision, and we are grateful that you chose to spend a few moments learning about our lives, our values, and the kind of family we hope to build.

No matter what choice you make, we want you to know that we admire your strength, your love, and the care you are taking in planning for your child's future. If our paths do cross, we would be honored to walk this journey with you and to ensure your child grows up knowing how deeply they are loved by everyone who helped shape their story.

We hold you in our hearts and wish you peace, clarity, and support as you continue forward.

With gratitude,

ERIC + KENNA

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