

We're Chris and Tiffani!

(And we're excited to meet you)



HI!

We're Chris and Tiffani, and we're so grateful that you would consider us as a family for your baby. We've been married for eight years, and in that time we have grown in our relationship and our friendship. We share the same goals and dreams, and there is nothing we desire more in this world than to be great parents. We are ready to grow our family and provide a child with a loving home and a lifetime of opportunity.

Your decision to have this baby and consider adoption is so courageous. Although we can't understand exactly how you must feel right now, we do understand difficulty and heartache. Even in the toughest times, with perhaps the most painful of circumstances, we believe that God has a plan. He will take care of you, and He will take care of us. We hope that this letter gives you a sense of who we are, and that you will contact us to get to know us even better.

Nearly three years ago we started a whole new journey, as we were chosen to be the parents of a sweet little baby girl. She is a little miracle, and we love her more than words can say. She is growing so fast and learning and developing, and has just brought us so much joy. She is a happy girl and she's ready for a sibling (which type changes each time we ask about it). We are ready too. Having been through the adoption process successfully gives us hope that God will provide again.



Our family



I'm ready for a partner!

We live in a small town in southern Indiana, the same town in fact where we both grew up. We live just outside the city limits on a two acre lot in the country. Our dog Gibson is the caretaker. He roams and plays, and absolutely loves his role.



He's always curious!



Picked up a punkin' at the pumpkin patch

Chris is a guidance counselor at the local high school. Tiffani is an English teacher at the same school. Working in the same place, especially a school system, is great for raising a family. We're home by 3:45 nearly everyday, never work weekends or holidays. Don't have to go to school during fall break, Thanksgiving break, Christmas Break, Spring Break, or SUMMER VACATION! Our schedule allows us plenty of time for visiting friends, family, and new places.



Tiff and Chris



This is our home!

In The Beginning

From Chris: The story of how we got together pretty much begins at the Prom. Not when we were in high school—later—once we had both graduated from college and gotten jobs in the high school. We were asked to be chaperones. What drew me to Tiffani was her smile, the way she carried herself, and the way she talked to students as they came in. I could see that she was kind, personable, well-liked, and I hadn't even talked to her yet.

That night at the Prom led to a month long dating spree, with picnics at the lake, movies, cooking, and game nights. It was definitely a "get to know you quick" time, because a few weeks later, I was off to boot camp for the Army. While at basic training, I missed Tiffani terribly. I missed talking to her and just hanging out. There were no phone calls, but we wrote to each other practically everyday for three months. We fell in love through the mail. She has a wonderful ability to share her heart with others, and she was able to show it to me in letters. It may just be the perfect way to get to know someone from the inside out.

From Tiffani: I saw Chris across the crowded room at the prom and knew he was something special. I had heard the students talk about how great he was, but we hadn't crossed paths much. After chatting with him that night at the prom, I knew I wanted to know more about him. Turns out—I was right—Chris had this sensitivity and kindness that I loved, and he was the man I knew I wanted to marry. He was something special.

Meet the family



Tiff's family campout



Size of the fish doesn't matter

From Chris: Once I finally got home, we were together all the time. I introduced Tiffani to some of my hobbies like camping, fishing at the pond, Colts and Reds games, and Kings Island. We went to museums, plays, and concerts. Tiffani introduced me to some of her favorite activities, like scuba diving, riding four wheelers, and of course, shopping. All of those things we still love to do today. She also introduced me to her family; they're wonderful, and they ALL live here in our small town. Actually, they sort of live on the edge of town as well, with lots of land in the country. Tiff and I spend every Sunday out there. As soon as we get home from church, we change clothes and go. Her mom always prepares a Sunday dinner for everyone. Tiffani has two younger sisters, and both of them have small kids. Nothing I could possibly say would convey how wonderful Tiffani's parents are. They give and they love, that's just what they do. They are the perfect grandparents. "Nanna" and "Pap" are spoilers and can't wait for more grandkids.



Chris's mom, sister, and bro-in-law



This is most of Chris's family

Although my family is very tight, we're a little spread out. My mom and dad live in the Indianapolis area. My only sister and her husband live in Tennessee, and they have two kids, ages 3 and 1. Pretty much the rest of my family, aunts, uncles, and cousins, all live in the Cincinnati area. We all still visit often and, of course, gather on the holidays. The whole family is so excited about the possibility of a new baby.

This is Chris

From Chris: One of the coolest things about our marriage is that even though we are great together as a couple, we have been able to maintain our individual identities and personalities as well. I am a huge sports nut, and love pro football. For the most part, I'll watch people compete at pretty much anything. The one thing that beats watching sports is participating in them, which I've done my whole life. Currently, I coach our high school girls' tennis team. Coaching seems a lot like parenting. My emphasis is less on winning and more on preparation, hard-work, maximum effort, positive-confident attitude, and of course, having fun. I just can't wait to watch a son and/or daughter in whatever sport or activity they choose. I'll be their biggest fan and supporter. My parents never missed a single game, or concert, or show. Dad was my "silent" partner, always positive and encouraging, never speaking an unkind word. I appreciated that and model myself after him.



Colts fans for life!



Did that camel just say something?

Music has always played a huge role in my life too. Growing up we had a lot of traditions. I can remember every Christmas at my grandparents house, just before we opened presents, the whole family sang carols. My mom played the organ, my aunt the piano, and my granddad was always on the guitar. Even though I was just a kid and crazy for presents, my memories aren't of the gifts..... they are of sitting around the living room, with my family, reading the Christmas story and singing Christmas songs. Today, I still love music and have such an appreciation for people who can write songs and play instruments. Whether I am driving down the road or sitting in my office at work, music is always on.

From Tiff: Chris is also a hero to me, and one of the bravest people I know. After 9/11, he wanted to defend our country even when he didn't have to. We had been married for two years when he left for Iraq. Being without him during that time was the most difficult thing I had ever had to do. What got me through was not only my faith, friends, and family, but also the incredible way Chris approached it. To him, it was an honor and a privilege. He has an amazing love for his family, for his country, and for God.

Little on Tiff



Sleeping Beauties



Homerun at the Louisville Slugger Museum

From Tiff: From the time I was very small, my parents instilled in me a love for the outdoors and being active. No matter what I did, my parents never pushed me to be great, just to enjoy what I was doing. That has carried over in my life throughout the years. Most people would probably say that I like to laugh and have fun. I love to travel. Starting when I was about 9, my parents always took us to Florida and Disneyworld every year, and I can always remember that feeling I had when I saw the ocean. From then on, I had the "bug." Seeing new places and experiencing new things has always interested me—Paris, the Caribbean, Mexico, the Southwest, and even little towns along the way—every place has something different to offer and experience. Luckily, Chris loves traveling as much as I do, and we can't wait to add a little one to our caravan.

From Chris: Tiffani is a wonderful wife... she's kind, giving, and cares for people like no other. She is passionate about her family, and raising one of our own. She has had great examples in her life, and is such a great mom, who is always teaching little life lessons through everything from cooking to watering the flowers. She is just unbelievable, and I am excited to see her parent another little one.

Dearly Beloved

Our friendship led to our marriage and the decision to build a family. It really has been neat to travel through life with my best friend. We're partners in crime when things are great, and when they aren't so good. We knew from the very beginning that there was a pretty good chance that Tiffani might never give birth. With hope in our hearts, we began with fertility treatments. Then there were surgeries and more treatments. For nearly four years, nothing. Then in 2005, it happened. On our third try with in-vitro fertilization, Tiffani got pregnant—with twins.

It was a tough pregnancy, months of bed-rest, tons of doctor appointments. Then the day came, her water broke, and the babies were born, a little boy, Carson, and a little girl, Campbell. They were precious; they were perfect, but they came a little too early. Tiff and I held them as they died, just one day apart. We were completely devastated. It hurt, and it always will. What keeps us going is God's promise that he will never give us more than we can handle. He didn't promise that all the chapters of life would be easy, but He did promise that in the end, in the final chapter, He would make it right. We are waiting for great things to happen, and know they are just around the corner. A child is what we really want, and it doesn't matter whether or not our child is conceived by us. We're sure His plan for us is to build a family through adoption and create a wonderful life for a little one, or ones, we would never even have known if our babies had survived. We know it, we understand it, and we can't wait for it to happen.



We also understand and accept that each birthmother will differ in the degree of openness she wants to have with her child's adoptive parents, and we will respect that completely. We would definitely be open to pictures, videos, or email if that is what she desires. We will be very open and honest with a child about the adoption and answer all questions completely. We feel the more we have to share about his/her birthmother, the healthier and happier he/she will be.

Well, thank you for taking the time to learn a little about us. There are tons of great people out there just waiting to be parents, and we know you have a lot to think about in the next few weeks and months. Please know that we are praying for you and other birthmothers facing difficult decisions everyday. We feel like you're headed down the right road in exploring adoption for your baby, and see this as the ultimate act of selflessness. You are a very special woman, and we wish you peace and comfort in the months and years ahead. To learn more about us, to talk with us by telephone, or to meet us in person, please contact our attorney Michele Jackson at mjackson@jhdj-law.com or 317-569-0770.

