



*Hello and thank you for taking time to read our Profile and getting to know about us and our family. We realize you are contemplating a difficult decision and that you care for the future of your child. We hope the pictures and information below will give you a glimpse into our lives so you can imagine what life would be like for your child should you choose us.*

#### About Us:

We are Mary and Gary. We have been together since the fall of 2005. We were actually set up on a blind date! Mary's best friend and her mother were instrumental in the arrangement. We both knew after that first date that we were meant to be together. Something just clicked. We spent over three hours at a restaurant on that first date just talking. The conversation came so easy and it seemed we had known each other for years. We enjoyed many firsts that year and were engaged the following summer. Gary proposed in front of the fountains at the Bellagio in Las Vegas—a dream of Mary's. We married in the Spring 2007 and celebrated with over 350 of our family and friends. It was the beginning of a wonderful life and adventure together.

#### *What Gary says about Mary:*

I had known of Mary and her family a long time before we were fixed up on a blind date. From that first date I knew Mary was perfect for me. She is a caring, giving, loving person who makes my life complete. When we began trying to start a family, I fell even more in love with her when I saw how she handled the disappointments. She has remained upbeat and hopeful about someday becoming a mother. We have 8 nieces and 4 nephews. Just the look of pure joy on her face at family gatherings when she is helping the kids get food on their plate or playing games outside with the kids is the sight of happiness. Watching Mary when we have the kids spend the night at our house, whether she is cooking or reading a book to them, is heartwarming. It brings so much joy to her. I know that Mary will make an excellent mother some day. Mary has made me a better person by just being in my life. I love her so much!





*What Mary says about Gary:*

I just knew things would all be fine when Gary arrived for our first date in his shiny, clean red truck and when I noticed he had a goatee as well! I knew from that date that this was someone I could spend the rest of my life with. We spent hours on that first night and many nights after just talking and getting to know each other. I can honestly say that even from that first night, I felt we would be together forever. Gary is one of the most caring, giving, and loving men I have ever had the pleasure to know. He is also sensitive with a heart of gold! I feel like the luckiest woman in the world to have him as a husband. He is always willing to help a friend in need and still serves as a local volunteer fireman. After the unexpected death of his father

many years ago, he has spent countless hours watching out for his mother and helping her take care of her house and grounds. I have seen how Gary has become a part of my family, playing with my nieces and nephews, reading to them, not to mention attending numerous recitals, band concerts, and sporting events to show his support for them. He has so much love to give to a child! I believe he has all the qualities of a supportive father.

**About our families:**

Mary- I am the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest of 4 children. I have an older brother and a younger sister and brother as well. My parents have been married for 43 years. I grew up on a farm in southern Indiana, so I guess you could call me a country girl. I was very involved in sports during high school and enjoyed success at both basketball and in track. I left the country to attend college in the city. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics. How does the saying go? "You can take the girl to the city but you can't take the country out of the girl." That is how I felt, and I missed my hometown, so I moved back there after graduation. For several years I worked in the business field as a buyer and office manager. Later, I returned to college to pursue my dream of becoming a teacher and earned my teaching certification for mathematics. I am currently a high school Geometry teacher. I just completed my Master's Degree and my 5<sup>th</sup> year of teaching. In my spare time, I enjoy baking, gardening, shopping, and spending time with Gary and my family and friends.

With our  
family  
celebrating  
Easter (2009)



Gary- I am the older of 2 children in my family. I have a younger brother and nieces. My parents were married for 30 years before my father passed away. I am very close to my mom and help her out as much as possible. I work for the local electric company as an equipment operator. I am active in the local Lions Club which gives me an opportunity to help in our community. I also serve on the volunteer fire department. During high school, I played baseball and basketball. In my spare time, I enjoy attending racing events, tinkering with things, and spending time with Mary and my family and friends.



Together, we enjoy going to the movies, dining out, relaxing on our patio, visiting with family and friends, and traveling. We especially enjoy the American Southwest and Mexico. We have 13 nieces and nephews. The kids range in age from an infant – 20 years of age. At our family gatherings, there is always an abundance of activity: laughter, sports, board games, programs put on by the kids, and even the “chicken dance”. There are also plenty of hugs and kisses for those unexpected boo-boos and comforting for those times when the kids are just having a rough day. Our families are very excited for us in our pursuit to have a family and are ready to help welcome another child with open arms.



#### Home:

We recently moved into Gary’s childhood home in Southern Indiana, which we have remodeled. Our home is large with several bedrooms, a warm kitchen and a huge yard for children to play. Our nieces love to play outside when they visit and play games with sidewalk chalk. We also have a pool in the backyard which is enjoyed by all of our family. We live close to family and in a community that watches out for each other.

We have lots of family gatherings throughout the year with birthdays, holidays, pool parties, and barbecues. We love to have the kids over for slumber parties, take them to the park, and even go shopping together. The county fair is a big community event as well and we spend countless hours there throughout that week helping out, watching the kids show rabbits and pigs, participate in the kiddy tractor pull, and looking at their projects.

#### Our Faith:

Mary grew up Catholic and Gary grew up Methodist but we are both respectful of each other's religion. We attend the Catholic Church primarily but also attend Gary's childhood church once a month. We feel comfortable in both churches since both are very family-oriented and we know almost everyone who attends. Church is a part of our social and family activity, and is another source of support for us.

#### Desire for a family:

Even before we got married, we both agreed that we would love to have a family. We knew it would not be easy to conceive a child though because of Mary's past history of infertility. Although we tried unsuccessfully to conceive through in-vitro fertilization, we never lost the hope of becoming parents one day. We know what joy and happiness a child can bring to a family and have never given up on that dream for us. Adoption has always been a very real option for us and one that we are very excited about. Adoption is a blessing and a tremendous gift for couples like us and we trust that God will bless us with a family.

#### Responsibilities as parents:

We are prepared for the responsibilities that come with being parents. We have both had many life experiences that have brought us to this time in our lives in which we are prepared for this life-changing event. Because of Mary's teaching schedule, she has an ideal work schedule to be home with a child and provide the nurturing, caring environment that a child deserves. Gary works only minutes away from home and can be available if needed so both of us are ready and willing to take on parenting responsibilities. Our faith in God and the support of our families and friends will be important elements of our parenting.

#### Closing:

Gary and I would like to have a semi-open adoption. We are open to discussing this in more detail so everyone has clear expectations. We believe it is important for your child to know his/her birth story and the sacrifice you made in choosing adoption. We promise to love your child unconditionally and we will provide a safe, secure, and loving home for your child. Because of our strong relationship, our faith, the loving support of our families, and our dedication to making a wonderful home for our family, we will be able to provide a nurturing home for a child. Thank you for taking the time to read about us and for considering us to be parents for your child. We know that you have a very difficult decision to make and we wish you the best in whatever you choose.

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