

SEAN *and* KELSEY





HELLO!

WE'RE SO HONORED TO BE HERE WITH YOU.

Our names are Sean and Kelsey, and this is our little girl, Navy. Thank you for taking the time to get to know a little about us. No matter if you make it past this first page or not, we want you to know that you are loved, you are valuable, and you are more than enough. The decision you are wrestling with is beyond our understanding, but we hope you feel empowered to do whatever is right for you. No matter what you decide, we are humbled by your strength and are praying for you already.

Adoption holds such a precious space in our hearts, as it is how our family was formed. We have seen the ways it is full of both joyful praise and brokenness, and we want you to know that we don't enter this space lightly. We are bursting with anticipation to be able to grow our family through adoption again! We love being parents and are already dreaming of what our family might become.

Thank you again for inviting us into this vulnerable space with you. We have been and will continue to pray for protection, provision, and peace in this decision you are making.

- Sean and Kelsey

THE SHORT VERSION

AND A SNAPSHOT OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER

2007

We met right before graduation and Sean joined the military.

2011

We got engaged and began planning our life together.

2012

We said "I do" with the sweetest destination wedding in Florida.

2016

We bought a home in North Dakota and began dreaming of a family.

2020

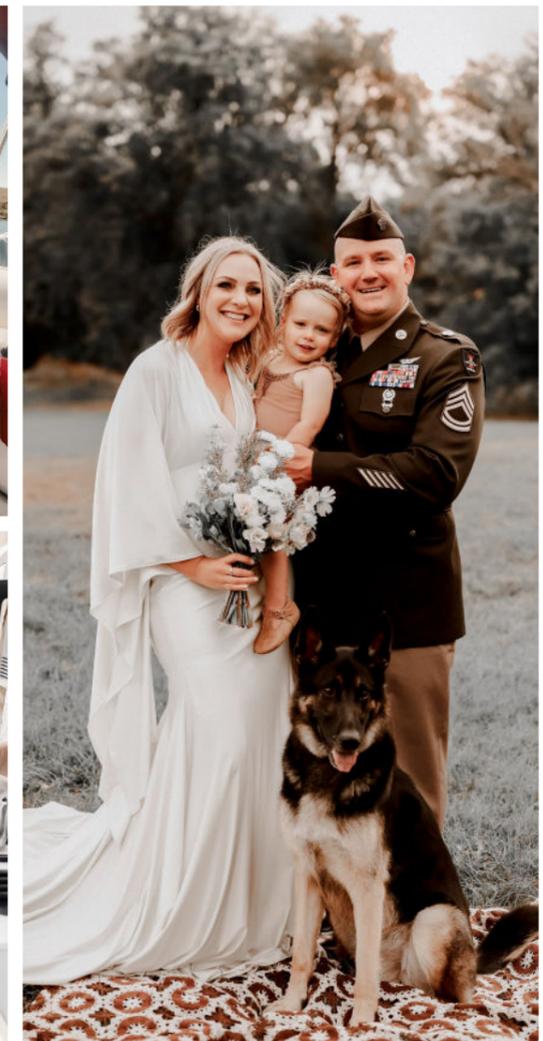
We met and immediately fell in love with our daughter, Navy.

2022

We stepped into adoption for the second time with great anticipation.

A few key things to know about our family:

1. We love Jesus. We believe boldly, pray often and encourage asking big questions.
2. We love family time - playing in our playroom, going for walks or on bike rides, playing on our swing-set, or visiting family, we truly love spending time together.
3. We serve. Sean is full-time active duty army.
4. We love projects - decorating, designing, building, and DIY.
5. We enjoy baking/cooking. We love trying new recipes and involving everyone in the process. (Navy usually picks what we make!)
6. We like sports. We share season tickets with Sean's family for the Minnesota Vikings. We go to a few games every year and cheer loudly!
7. We love adventure. Sean is known to plan trips on a whim and always finds the best places to stay and things to do. We like traveling to Iowa, Minnesota, and Oklahoma to see family but also enjoy going *anywhere* with beaches and mountains!
8. We have the best dog - Sergeant. He is a 5-year old purebred German Shepherd and a major part of our life! He is the most loyal, protective companion and Navy's best friend.
9. We're surrounded by a great community of church family, friends, and neighbors.
10. We love where we live - especially that we get to experience all four seasons!





STILL FALLING IN LOVE

WITH MY VERY BEST FRIEND



EARLY ON

We met before HS graduation but were moving in two very different directions.

1ST DATE

We went out for ice cream a year later, laughed the whole time, and dreamed about the future.

GROWING

We dated for four years and navigated our first deployment as a couple.

PROPOSAL

Sean proposed on a bridge that overlooked the skyline of one of our favorite cities.

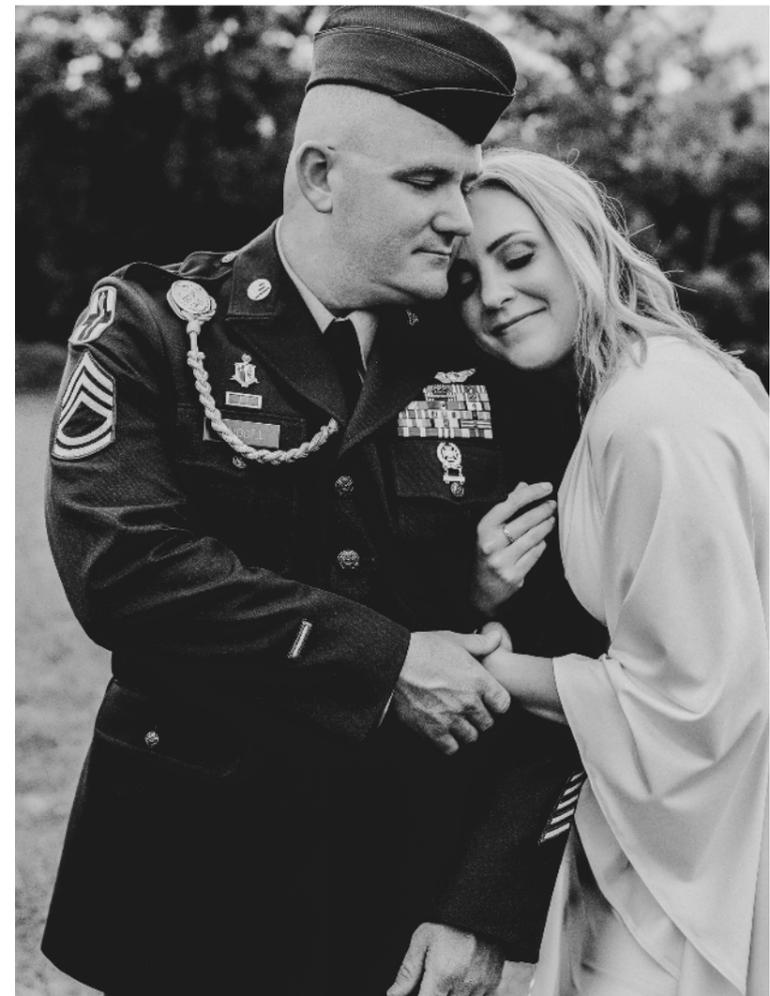
WEDDING

We said "I do" on a beach in Fort Meyers with just our closest family and friends.

10 YEARS

We celebrated our tenth anniversary, reflecting on all the ways we have grown.

Through more than a decade together, we have built resiliency, strength, empathy, and love. **We are and will forever be best friends.**



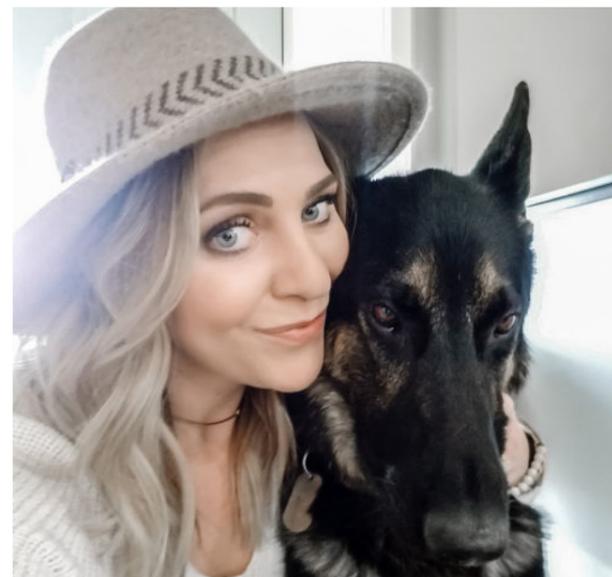
We met in 2007 through mutual friends. It was months before our high school graduation, and we had our eyes set on different things (Kelsey was preparing to go to college and start her career while Sean was gearing up for continued military training), and yet, something in our hearts connected. We had no idea our lives would continue to collide in the years ahead.

Sean was persistent and pursued Kelsey over the next year. During the four years we were dating, we experienced our first deployment; what should have torn us apart actually pushed us closer together. Our loyalty and dedication towards each other held firm through difficulty.

In 2011, Sean proposed while we were celebrating a weekend away. He asked to go for a night walk on a favorite bridge. As we were walking under the glow of the downtown and the stars, he suddenly stopped and got down on one knee! In 2012, we were married on the beaches of Florida with a few close friends and family to celebrate.

Our relationship has endured many difficult seasons, yet we have built our marriage on strength and love. We hold fast to our commitment of "I do" and find joy in navigating our life together.

MEET KELSEY



MY RADIANT WIFE

"Kelsey is passionate, strong, and resilient. She displays a "will not fail" mentality on motherhood and always ensures everyone's needs are met. She brings warmth and joy to our family and is always full of hilarious gaffs that can make our whole family belly laugh! I'm so grateful to have her as a best friend, a partner, and mother to our children."

-Kelsey in Sean's words



THE BASICS

I'm 33 years old. I care deeply, I enjoy genuine conversations, and I strive to show up in real and authentic ways for the people in my life.

MY EDUCATION AND CAREER

I have a Masters degree in Communication Disorders and work as a Speech Pathologist. I love working with children and celebrating their milestones with them!

SOME OF MY FAVORITES

A warm cup of coffee · Spending time with my family · Shopping · Reading a good book · Going for walks · Meeting up with friends · Christmas lights · Deep conversations · Mexican food · Finding deals and a good sale

MEET SEAN



MY CARING HUSBAND

"Sean is incredibly selfless and is the first to show up when someone needs help. He's also easygoing and spontaneous while still being extremely loyal. He is always there to kiss Navy's owies, help with her hair, and go on an adventure. He is the type of dad who will grab a ball and play outside, give underdogs on the swing, and have a tea party on the floor. I love being married to my best friend and experiencing life's adventures together."

-Sean in Kelsey's words

THE BASICS

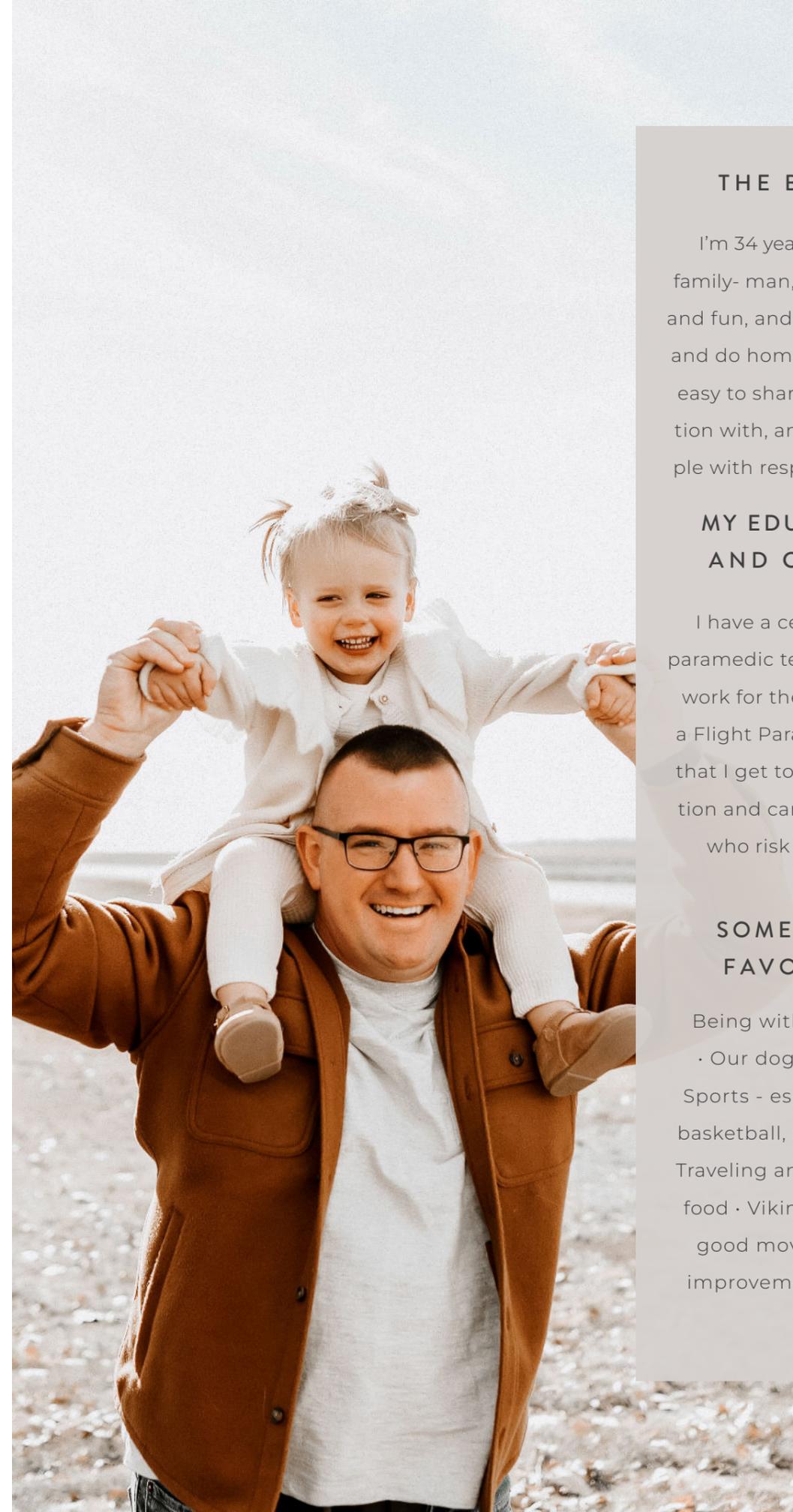
I'm 34 years old. I'm a family- man, I'm outgoing and fun, and I love to travel and do home projects. I'm easy to share a conversation with, and I treat people with respect and care.

MY EDUCATION AND CAREER

I have a certificate in paramedic technology and work for the US Army as a Flight Paramedic. I love that I get to serve my nation and care for the sick who risk their lives.

SOME OF MY FAVORITES

Being with my family
· Our dog, Sergeant ·
Sports - especially golf, basketball, and football ·
Traveling and trying new food · Vikings football ·
good movies · home improvement projects



COMING TO ADOPTION

We began trying to grow our family in 2016 after Sean came home from a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan. We were hopeful we would become pregnant, but unfortunately we endured years of unexplained infertility instead; Kelsey was later diagnosed with stage four endometriosis.

The years of waiting and discovering each month that we were not pregnant were filled with many tears, but the desire to experience parenthood stayed the same. We confidently stepped into adoption, ready to love a child and his or her birth family with our whole hearts.

Two years ago, this brought us to our daughter, Navy. and we cannot wait to love another child like we love her and for her to have a sibling she will share pieces of her story with.

THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS, WE HAVE HELD A FEW WORDS CLOSE TO OUR HEART...

- 1.) **Lean In.** *We are a strong family unit who leans into the hard and loves without bounds.*
- 2.) **Be Open.** *If you choose adoption, we will honor whatever type of relationship you desire.*
- 3.) **Honor.** *We promise to honor you and your child's story. We will also honor their culture, their race, and their history.*



THE PLACE WE CALL HOME...

Our home is nestled on a half-acre lot of land on the edge of town. It's one of the fastest growing cities in North Dakota and has both a small town and a big city feel. We love the balance of the two and the tight knit neighborhood we're a part of.

A few things we love about our home:

- We love our spacious backyard with a swing set.
- We love our playroom sprinkled with toys and so many memories of laughter.
- We love the large couch in our basement where we snuggle together near our cozy fireplace and watch movies and football games.
- We love living walking distance from amenities like a splash pad, community park with baseball diamonds, playgrounds, ice-skating rinks, and an event center that often has kid nights, concerts, and plays

All in all, we love that we get to raise our kids here.



MEET NAVY

NAVY IS A DEEPLY LOVING AND TENDER TWO-YEAR OLD!

She is helpful, compassionate, and joyful. We constantly find her breaking out in songs, twirling, or tidying up areas of our home. She is also sensitive and enjoys being held, snuggled, and rocked. If someone is feeling sad, she's the first to notice and give them a hug. She loves playing with her dollhouse and pretend kitchen, swinging on our swing set, reading books, going on bike rides, and pushing her baby stroller. She also likes going to the zoo, and helping out by loading the dishwasher, giving the dog treats, or putting water in the dog bowl. We love watching her grow and can't wait to see who she becomes!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

THE MEMORIES WE MAKE

Almost all our days start with Navy grabbing an arm-load of stuffed animals and bringing them to the living room while we cuddle and chat. After breakfast, it's playtime! We love to play "tickle monster" and spend hours in the playroom.

Some of our other favorite things to do include:

Going to the zoo // Playing on the swing set, in the snow, or in the leaves // Going on a nature hunt // Catching bugs // Boating and swimming at the lake // Driving our power wheels car // Visiting Daddy at work // Going to the library

THE TRADITIONS WE KEEP

Holidays are full of fun, family, and traditions. We celebrate Easter with church and an Easter egg hunt. On the 4th of July, there is often a parade, fireworks, and a rodeo! We dress up for Halloween and trick-or-treat with friends. We travel to see family for Thanksgiving, and Sean often runs in a TurkeyTrot. We celebrate the Christmas season with lights, gifts, snacks, sledding, and loved ones.

We also go big for birthdays! You can almost bet there will be balloon arches, gifts, themes, and treats to match. We send out invites to family and enjoy spending time together with cake and goodies.



"Family is not defined by our genes, it is built and maintained through love."





IF WE ARE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO JOIN YOU IN
LOVING THIS CHILD, WE PROMISE TO...

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|---|--|
| 01 Cherish, love, and celebrate our children for <i>whoever</i> they are and encourage them to be who God created them to be. | 05 Keep our marriage a priority so that our children know what a healthy, strong, and resilient marriage looks like. |
| 02 Teach our children about our Heavenly father and support them as they ask big questions and pray bold prayers. | 06 Speak of you often and remind our child of their courageous birth family, the sacrifices you made, and the love you have. |
| 03 Provide our children with a safe and loving home where each of them are deeply known and unconditionally loved. | 07 Hold space for the beauty and brokenness, understanding adoption is complex and can hold many tangled emotions at once. |
| 04 Honor our child's culture, heritage, and past and invest in opportunities that will provide them with mirrors of themselves. | 08 Foster as much openness as you desire, always expressing the delight, pride, and absolute worth you have as Birth Mama. |

FRIEND, AS MUCH AS WE HAVE PRAYED FOR THIS CHILD, WE HAVE PRAYED JUST AS MUCH FOR YOU. NO MATTER WHAT YOU DECIDE, WE ARE FOR YOU.

We cannot fully express what an honor it has been to “spend this time together.” We are thinking of you as you carry the weight of this decision, cheering for you, and covering you in prayer. You are fierce, brave, and courageous. May you find peace and comfort as you do whatever is best for you and your child in the days ahead.

- Sean and Kelsey

