



Holly
& Josh





HELLO THERE!



Hello! We are Holly and Josh and we are so happy and honored that you have opened our book and are taking the time to learn a little bit about us and our family. We admire and respect your great strength, and we can only imagine what a difficult and painful decision this is. We know your love for your child cannot be measured and we hope through this book you will discover that we will love and cherish your child and celebrate who they are and where they came from.

We adopted our daughter, Ava, in March 2023, and she is the most wonderful gift we could ever imagine. We are so excited to bring another child into our hearts and family to share a life filled with love, laughter, and encouragement. We look forward to sharing our experiences, the lessons we have learned, and the things that bring us joy with our children.

We wish you comfort through this difficult time as you make the best decision for you and your baby. We hope this book is the first step on a journey that we take together that includes love, happiness and a wonderful future for your child.

Love,

Holly & Josh

ABOUT US



“ In our family we:

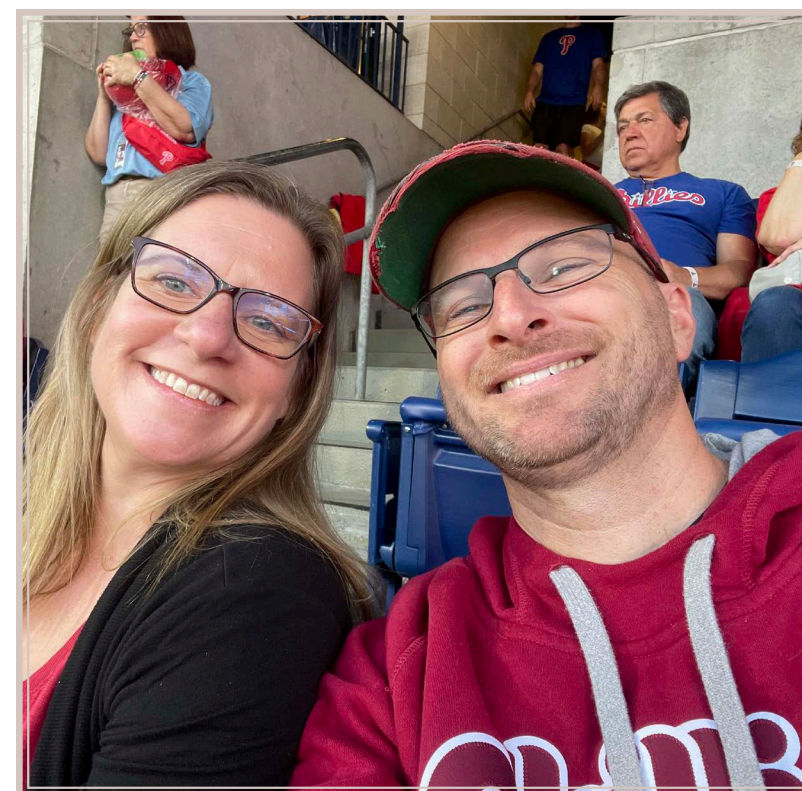
- Love to get together and enjoy our family and friends.
- Love to play outdoors.
- Support and value each other and those around us, even those we disagree with.
- Value education.”



We had our first date in December 2016 and knew right away that our connection was something special. Within the first few months of dating, we knew we were each other's person. In February of 2018 Josh proposed, and we were married a few months later in August.

One of the best things about our relationship is that we make a great

team. We have similar interests that we enjoy together, yet we are different enough to remain individuals. We bring balance to each other, have fun together, and genuinely make each other happy! We are so excited to be embarking on another adoption journey, as we have seen through our daughter's adoption that it is a beautiful way to grow our family!



MEET HOLLY

by Josh

Holly loves so deeply and so expressively it is inspiring to witness. She is happiest when she is loving on our daughter, our nieces and nephews, or our dogs. Whether you're a human or a dog, you know you are loved by Holly and you can't help but love her back. She has a big heart and has shown me there is no limit to how much love one person can give. She is a great partner and parent because not only does she loves us more than anything, but she also teaches us how love.



More About Holly

OCCUPATION: College Professor

FAVORITE BOOK: To Kill a Mockingbird

FAVORITE PLACE: The beach

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT: Josh, Ava, and puppy snuggles

MY PERFECT DAY: A morning hike with Josh, Ava, and the dogs, a picnic lunch, and an afternoon on the beach!

“Holly laughs and loves easily. She loves to have fun with friends and family and cannot wait to open her heart to a second child.”

- Josh

MEET JOSH

by Holly

I love Josh because he is sweet, caring, and extremely smart. At the same time he makes me feel perfectly myself and he challenges me to be a better person. Josh is a science nerd and loves nothing more than to play outside. He loves taking his nieces and nephew (and soon his daughter!) fishing, helping them set up birdfeeders, giving them duck eggs to hatch or butterfly cocoons to develop. He is so patient and will do anything for his family. I absolutely love to watch him with our daughter. He is the most caring, fun, and loving dad.



Playing with his niece, Maddy

More About Josh

OCCUPATION: High school teacher

FAVORITE BOOK: Nature's Best Hope

FAVORITE PLACE: Our home

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT: My family!

MY PERFECT DAY: A snow day when we can't do anything but watch the snow fall and play in it all day.

“Josh is the best dad, husband, son, and brother — he will do anything for his family.”

- Holly

MEET AVA



Ava is absolutely amazing. She is sweet and loving, hilarious and goofy, smart, and a tough little cookie. She surprises us every day with something new. She loves hanging out with Nana and Grammy, playing with her many cousins, and crawling around chasing the dogs.

“Our favorite time of day is getting Ava out of her crib in the morning - she is so excited and gives the absolute best morning snuggles!”



More About

Ava

AGE: 1

OCCUPATION: Professional puppy chaser

FAVORITE BOOK: The Pout Pout Fish

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT: Strawberries

MY PERFECT DAY: Wake up, snuggle, and drink a bottle. Eat pancakes with strawberries. Play. A walk in the stroller. Sleep. Go to Nana's and Pops' and play with the cousins, eat mac and cheese. Sleep. Eat chicken nuggets. Play in the bath. Read books. Go to sleep.

OUR PETS

We are both animal and nature lovers! We hope to cultivate a healthy love and respect for creatures of all types, big and small. Here are the pets we currently have in our home:

Wendy

- Our “gentle giant,” 10-year-old Newfoundland dog.
- A trained therapy dog, the highlight of her week is participating in a library program where kids read to her. They pull and climb and love on her while she gives lots of kisses.

Gus

- Our 11-year-old Great Pyrenees.
- He is also a trained therapy dog and is a sweetheart with the kids.
- He's also the family protector, especially from Amazon and UPS trucks!

Quincy

- Our 8-year-old Boston Terrier.
- Quincy makes friends with everyone he meets and loves kids. He loves to show lots of affection, and he and Gus share a birthday!

Murray

- Our newest four-legged family member, a 3-year-old French Bulldog.
- He is the comedian of the pack, always making us laugh with his funny quirks and personality.
- He loves to hide out under Ava's high chair to grab anything that falls!



Gus and Wendy



Quincy and Murray meeting baby Ava



The whole pack

OUR HOME AND COMMUNITY

We live in a great, small town in Pennsylvania. Our home is a contemporary style with four bedrooms, three bathrooms, and the best part - a huge backyard on three acres of land. Our favorite features are the two-story windows that overlook the back of our property. We watch the wildlife and love taking our dogs for a swim in the stream. We are excited to have such a beautiful space for our children to enjoy the outdoors. We have a patio that is great for entertaining, and Josh, the cook in our family, enjoys whipping up something delicious in our kitchen.

Our quirky little town is a great mix of a small town feel while also having lots to do. There are plenty of shops and restaurants, our school district is one of the best in the state, and our neighborhood is full of young families. We have several nature preserves nearby where we enjoy exploring, walking trails, and parks. Our home is something we are so proud of, a peaceful environment we've helped to cultivate, and we can't wait to raise our family here!



Holly's pollinator gardens



Our backyard



Ava's room



Tasting veggies from the garden



Ava's first Christmas

OUR FRIENDS

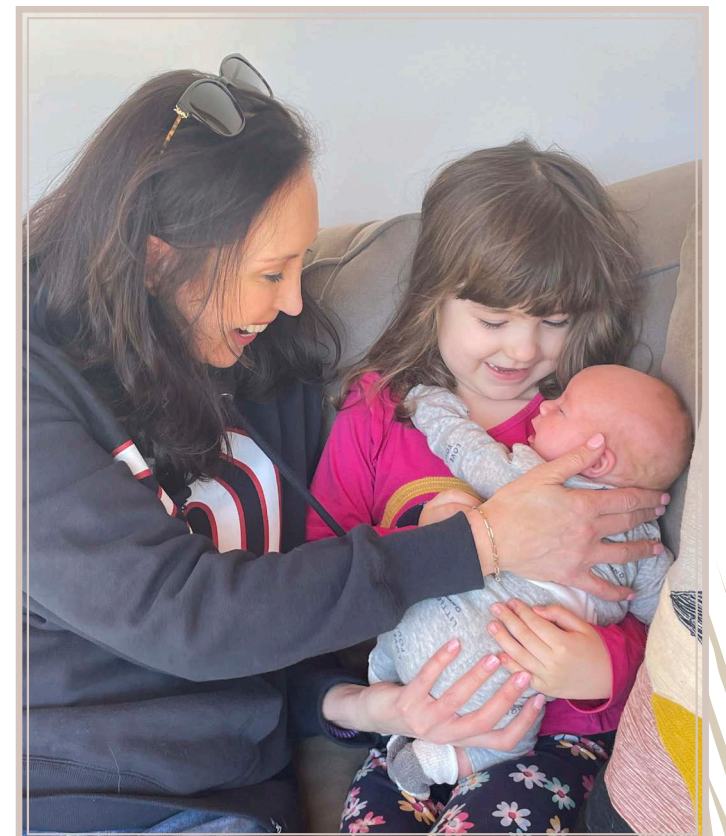
We are fortunate to have a lot of good friends, and we love to get together with them. They come from a wide range of backgrounds and we love to celebrate our differences and learn about other cultures. We are super excited that two of our best friends are expecting a baby this summer, and we look forward to our kids growing up together!



Our annual Crawfish boil



Our friends who are expecting!



Close friends meeting Ava!

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY



Holly's family, in her words: My family is big, loud, and a lot of fun. I am one of three kids, and though we don't live close, we remain close-knit and see each other often. My older brother and his wife live in Cleveland and have two kids, ages nine and six. My sister and brother-in-law live outside Pittsburgh and also have two children, ages six and four. My parents (Grammy and Pa) live near my sister and ADORE their grandkids. I also have a large extended family, and we love getting together. No matter how much the family continues to grow, we still love our big get togethers, especially my parents' party on Christmas Day. Everyone absolutely loves Ava and is so excited for us to add another little one to the family!

Josh's family, in his words: I am one of four kids, and all of my family is local to us. My parents (Nana and Pops) still live in the home I grew up in, and we love going there in the summer to swim in the pool and explore the pond with my nieces, nephew, and our kids when they're older! My older sister has two girls who are college age and are great babysitters. My younger sister has two girls, ages ten and five, and a two-year-old boy. My brother has two girls, ages three and one. I'm excited to add our kids to the bunch! My family gets together often and takes turns hosting different holidays, but our favorite tradition is waffles and bacon on Christmas Eve. My family is so supportive and excited to see Holly and me become Mom & Dad again!



Ava, Aunt Tara, and Uncle Dan



Holly and her cousins



Halloween with the cousins

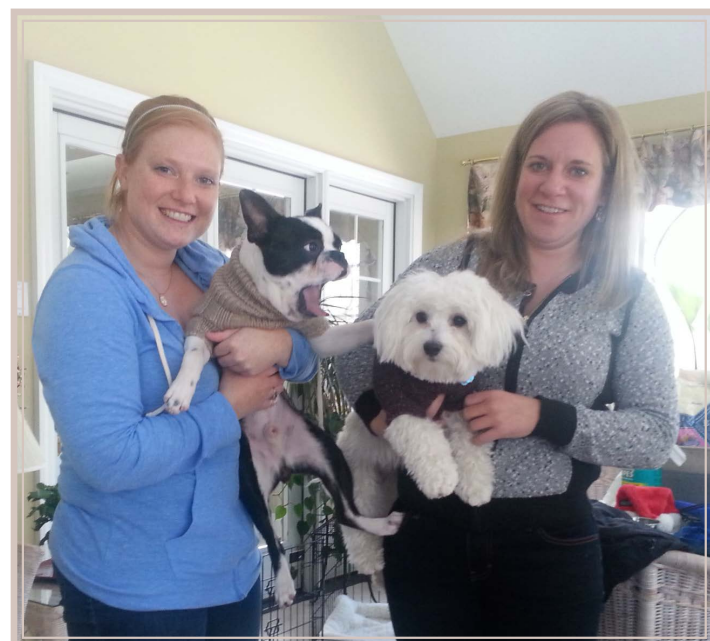


Mountain getaway with both families



Pa and Ava

“ We are blessed to have such a rich support system around us, and grateful that our child will grow up with built-in best friends with their many cousins! ”



Holly's sister and dog cousins



Ava and her cousins



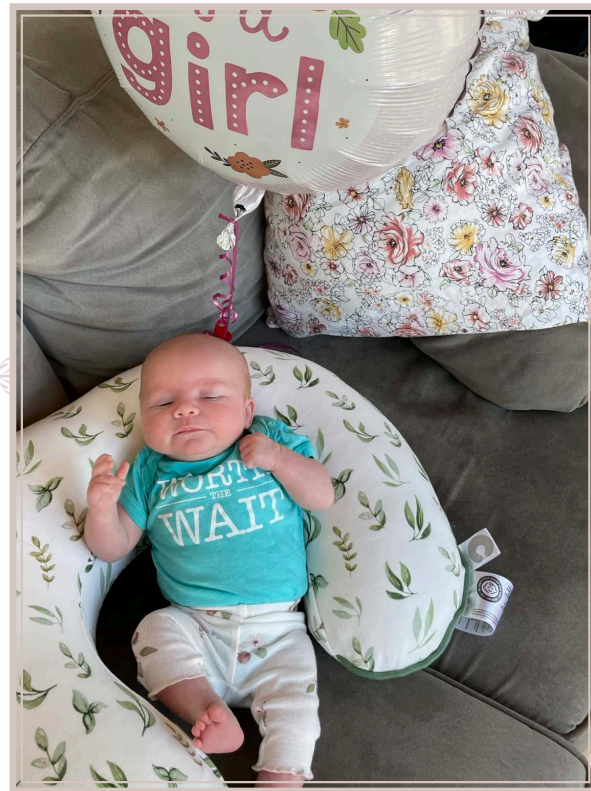
Grammy with Ava and cousins



Nana with Ava and cousins

WHY WE ARE ADOPTING *(again)*

We struggled for more than four years to have a child, and ultimately decided that infertility was an opportunity to take a different path and choose adoption to create our family. We have two very close friends who have adopted their children, and we saw through them the wonderful blessings of adoption.



IF YOU CHOOSE US...

We will commit to:

- Embracing your child with all the love in our hearts,
- Raising your child with strong values and close family ties,
- Creating a happy, laughing, fun-loving environment for your child to learn and grow,
- Providing your child with the support and resources to reach for his or her dreams, and
- Sharing this wonderful experience with you and your family, if you desire.



Our happiest day

FUN FACTS



- * A fun thing about our families: We all love sports, but we are die-hard fans for different teams. Josh's family cheers for the Philly teams, and Holly's family for the Pittsburgh teams. All in good fun, it's a cross-family, cross-state sports rivalry!
- * Holly is an Earth Scientist and her work on water has taken her to every continent except Antarctica (but she plans to go there someday). She can't wait to explore the world with her kids.



THANK YOU



Thank you again for taking the time to consider us as a family for your baby. We hope that this book gives you a sense of who we are and conveys the love and joy in our family and our excitement and hope for sharing that with our children.

If you choose us, we want you to feel secure knowing that your child will have a strong, loving, open family to nurture and support them throughout their life.

We wish you the best as you make this important decision for you and your baby. Whether or not you choose us for your child, our hearts are with you as you move forward in your journey.

With love,

Holly &
Josh