

Emily & Tom - Adoption Profile Book



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Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about us. We are excited to become parents and hope this collection of words and pictures gives you a glimpse into our lives. We admire your courage and strength as you consider an adoption plan for your child. Your selfless love will always be a part of your child's story. We would love to have a relationship with you and are open to sharing letters, pictures, videos, and visits. We hope you can feel the love we have to offer by looking through these pages.

*Love,
Emily and Tom*

How We Met

Emily grew up in the Northern Kentucky area with her parents and younger brother. Tom spent his childhood in southeastern Connecticut with his parents and older brother and sister. After graduating from college they both moved to Virginia to further their education.



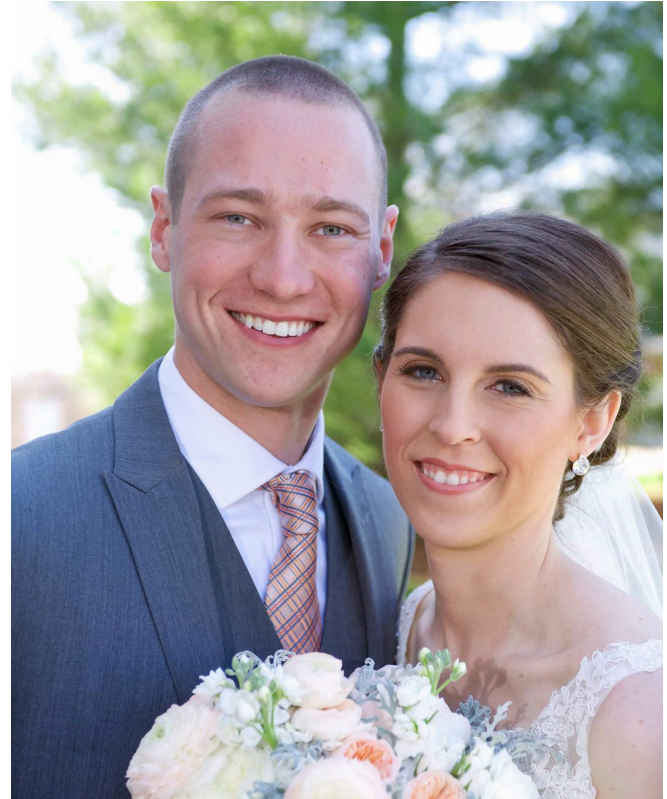
Early friendship in 2012



It was here that Emily and Tom met and developed a friendship. Emily first noticed Tom when they saw each other at church and he sang along to all of the songs! Tom was especially impressed with how Emily made everyone feel welcome. This was the start of their adventures together.

Emily graduated before Tom and moved back to Kentucky. They began dating long-distance in fall of 2013. Their communication skills were strengthened during this time!

In April 2015, they married and began their move to the nation's capital starting another adventure!



After living in Washington, DC for 4 years enjoying food, history and fulfilling career goals, it was time to move back to Kentucky to be closer to family. The next adventure was finding a house they could turn into a home.

Our Home



Growing cucumbers, tomatoes, herbs, and flowers in the side yard

Roasting marshmallows with family on the back patio



Since buying our house in 2020 we have added a back deck, lower patio, and front porch making this our forever home. This spring we look forward to more gardening. We love being able to enjoy entertainment in nearby cities such as going to the zoo, aquarium, parks, and hiking trails but nothing is better than spending time at home with family! A favorite moment is sitting outside listening to the fountains in the nearby lakes.



Setting up the kitchen for a crafting party



We love to host family and friends for themed parties, group activities, cook outs, bonfires, game nights, and sleepovers. Whether it's a party or relaxing on the couch, there is always room for one more person. Our home is a safe place to be yourself.



Playing games in the living room with parents and siblings



Dressing up to host a KY Derby themed wedding shower

Everyone is welcome in our home!



Cousins watching movies together



About Emily

"Emily makes each day a fun new adventure. Since day one she has inspired me to grow into a better person. The love she has for others is difficult to capture in words but comes through in her actions. Emily has a heart of gold. I know she is going to be an amazing mother!" - Tom



Things to Know About Emily

Emily works for a university's medical school **helping struggling students** succeed. She gives individual attention to each student working with them to adjust their learning strategies and time management skills. She is passionate about education.

Emily is a **natural leader** and can always find ways to bring a group together to achieve a goal. She shows this through her work but also within our family. She is known for planning activities such as scavenger hunts or trivia nights.

Emily has a **creative mind** perfect for her interests in crafting, cooking, and gardening. She also uses this skill to solve problems. She stays calm and cool under pressure.

Emily's Favorite Ways to Relax

Eating ice cream, dips of all kinds, and drinking flavored sparkling water. Sitting on the front porch, going to the lake, reading a good book, watching HGTV shows, and spending time with Tom.



Beachside in Florida



Experiencing rocky beaches in Connecticut



Dinner out in downtown Cincinnati



Rolling out dough for homemade dumplings

About Tom

"The first thing that attracted me to Tom was his kindness. He is always looking out for others. I know he will be a protective, caring, and supportive father. He is the most positive person I know making him a joy to be around! Tom makes the best out of any situation. His attitude is contagious!" - Emily



Things to Know About Tom

Tom is the **lead security contractor** at a local federal building and is also head of payroll for his employees. He enjoys working as part of a team and keeping others safe.

Tom will drop anything to **help anyone** in need. He fills in for coworkers and is always attentive to when family members need assistance. He jumps in to move furniture, run an errand, or be an extra set of hands for a project. We can count on Tom!

Tom enjoys **taking care of the house**. He likes finding ways to improve our home and keeps things nice for us and our neighbors. He has been teaching himself how to do home repairs. Tom also makes smart financial choices that bring our family security.

Tom's Favorite Ways to Relax

Snacking on Reese's cups and drinking an ice cold Coca-Cola. Enjoying fresh air on the back deck, listening to music, playing video games, going on walks around the neighborhood and through nearby trails. Making Emily laugh!

No matter where Tom is, he always has a smile on his face!



Summertime grilling at home



Exploring the Colorado Rockies



Hiking the mountains in North Carolina



Cousins enjoying Monday night football

Our Faith Community

Our Catholic faith and relationship with Jesus are important to us and our family. We are involved in a faith community where we attend church services together but also have lots of fun! Our church has picnics, bowling nights, pot luck dinners, prayer groups, a yearly festival and more! We also spend time volunteering there. We feel loved and supported in this community.



Our church is only a 5 minute drive from our house. There is a peaceful walking trail through the church property that we like to visit. Some families bring their children and teach them how to ride their bikes on the path. We look forward to doing that as well!



Meeting our Godson for the first time - couldn't leave his sisters out!

We have developed a special faith-filled relationship with our friends and cousins which led them to select us to be the Godparents for their children. We hope to teach our children about God the same way we will support our Godchildren's spiritual journeys. What a honor to hold this role in their lives!



We traveled to Colorado for our Godson's Baptism weekend and shared a group pic with his parents and cousin.

Emily's Extended Family

Emily's parents live minutes away in Northern Kentucky. Emily's younger brother and his wife live nearby in Cincinnati. This side of the family has lots of aunts, uncles, and cousins of all ages. (Emily and Tom are the oldest cousins!) We celebrate big milestones together but also just love doing the simple things in life together!

Emily's mom is a retired teacher who is excited to provide childcare and have special quality time with her grandchildren. She is patient, energetic, and creative! Emily's dad is nearing retirement and wants to join in the fun sharing favorite hobbies - hiking, fishing, cooking, and taste testing!



Emily's parents, Mark and Michele



We vacation with Emily's family. This is from our 7th cruise!



Emily's brother, Ben, and his wife, Mollie



Emily's Aunt Maria and Aunt Monica have both grown their own families through adoption.

Claire (16) and Sophia (6) who were adopted are pictured here together.



We could hardly fit everyone in one room for this extended family photo and we can't wait to add more love to the group!

We love to cheer on our cousins at their sporting events. We are their biggest fans!



Tom running a 5K and Emily leading a hike. Both having quality time with cousins.



Tom's Extended Family



Celebrating with Roberta and Mike, Tom's parents.



Exploring coastal Connecticut with Tom's brother, Michael, and his partner, Brian



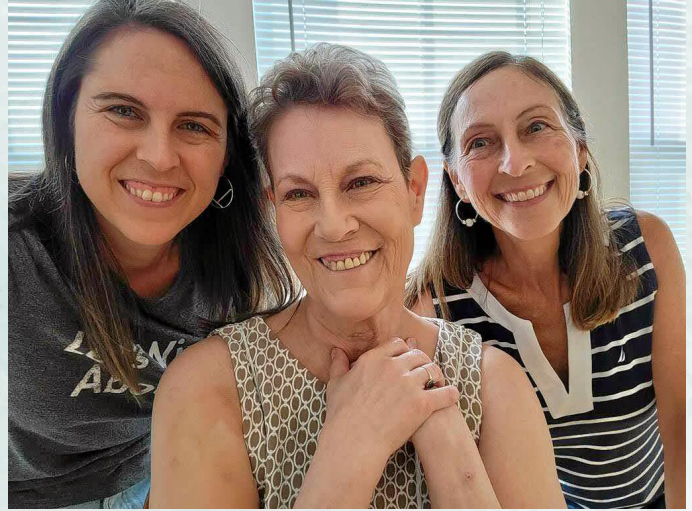
Catching up with Tom's sister, Kerry, and her husband, Paul

Tom's parents and two older siblings live in Connecticut. He also has aunts and cousins in New York, Massachusetts, Maryland, Florida, and Hawaii! Kentucky has become our home base with plenty of room for visitors but we also like to travel to get together. In between visits we send cards and packages, text memes, talk on the phone, and video chat regularly.

Even across the miles, our families are very close. Tom and Emily's parents love getting together! They planned joint visits to DC when we lived there and now coordinate visits together in Kentucky and beyond. We know our children will be adored by their grandparents!



Joint family meet up in Boston



Emily with her mom and Tom's mom having a girl's night at home



Tom with his dad and Emily's dad out a local baseball game



Birthday brunch for Tom's dad complete with smoothies and chocolate for dessert



Together we are family!

Holiday Traditions

We look forward to creating new traditions when our family grows but through the years we have created some favorite memories we like to experience over and over. Here are a few:



Apple Picking



Pumpkin Carving

Gingerbread House Making



Crafting & Decorating



Wearing matching aprons on Thanksgiving. We sewed these ourselves!



We decorated mini Christmas trees in memory of Emily's late aunt who started the tradition.

Walking through Christmas Lights



Summer Lake Fun

A little over an hour away, our aunt and uncle have a house on the lake. We gather there with family throughout the seasons. We love the peaceful surroundings at the lake and cherish all the laughter and memories. Time at the lake feels like summer camp!

We splash and swim, dance on the dock, kayak and jet ski, and simply enjoy being in the sun.



All ages play in the annual lake house kickball game together and then gather on the deck to cool off with drinks and snacks. See Emily up to kick and Tom with his teammates (cousins).



Emily singing karaoke with a cousin playing ukulele then roasting our dinner at the fire pit before star gazing.



We walk the hiking trail down to the lake to enjoy the view.



Fall Fest at the Lake

Parenting Promises



We will love your child unconditionally. We will show this love openly through words and actions. Your child will know they are accepted and loved exactly as they are.



We will provide for the needs of your child. We will give emotional and environmental security. We will provide opportunities for your child to learn and grow in a healthy and safe space.



We will share your courageous decision and honor your role in his or her life. We want your child to know you. We will be open to communication and visits in whatever way you are comfortable.





Thank you!

Thank you for considering an adoption plan for your child. We want a world with him or her in it! We look forward to being parents one day and will keep you and all expectant parents in our prayers. We appreciate the time you took to learn about us and hope you will reach out if you would like to learn more.

Emily and Tom

