



**ERIN**  
AND

*Doug*

# hello

**WE ARE DOUG AND ERIN**

We want to sincerely thank you for getting to know us as you consider an adoption plan for your little one.

Should you choose both adoption and us as your child's adoptive parents, we are committed to raising a child in a loving, nurturing, and stable home. We will work to ensure that your child has access to diverse life experiences, education, opportunities, healthcare, and financial and emotional support to help them build a happy, fulfilling life. Our goal is to prepare them to enter the world to make it a better place for all.

Our profile will give you more information about us, but we would be honored to share more with you through conversation. We welcome the opportunity to meet you and get to know you. We recognize that you are an irreplaceable part of your child's story. We are committed to building a relationship with a level of openness that works for everyone.



# outstory

## ALMOST HIGH SCHOOL SWEETHEARTS...

Although we grew up in the same small, rural town (4,000 people!) in Wisconsin, our paths didn't really cross until we were both home one college summer and started dating shortly after attending a friend's bonfire.

We mastered the art of long-distance dating while completing graduate school in different states (there were many weekend road trips and lots of mixed CDs).

After dating 7 years, we eloped in March 2015 while vacationing in the Caribbean, then promptly moved across the country with our two rescue pups so Erin could attend another round of graduate school to become a Physician Associate.

Although we love the mountains out West, we ultimately moved back to the Midwest to be close to our family and friends (plus, there's just something about the Great Lakes that feels like home!).



At 10 AM, we got married. By noon, we were laying by the pool, eating chicken tenders.

**BEST. WEDDING. EVER.**



Enjoying views of the Pacific Ocean along the Oregon coast.

## fun facts

- I took piano lessons x10 years.
- I lived in India during graduate school.
- Favorite food: chocolate + peanut butter (*that counts as a meal, right?*)
- I love gardening and try to grow something weird every year. This year, it's bumpy squash!

# Erin

## A B O U T M E

I work as a family medicine Physician Associate (PA), which I love because I get to know whole families and care for people from childhood through adulthood. Although adults are fun to see, I'd be lying if I didn't admit that pediatric visits are my favorite!

Outside of work I have a lot of hobbies, which I think comes from my love of learning. We have a woodshop in our garage where we've built a lot of cool furniture and decor. Our newest tool is a scroll saw that I hope to use to make wooden toys for our future child.

I also really enjoy combining my loves for crafting and gardening. I've recently started to make floral print decor for our home and cottage.

I also love to explore nature and be outside. I really enjoy hiking and have recently gotten into foraging for food in the wild - learning all about berries, mushrooms, and other edible plants. I guess it's safe to say that I'm a big science nerd! :)

I can't wait to share these hobbies with our future child and gain new hobbies as I learn about his/her interests.



# Doug

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## A B O U T M E

I'm lucky to have grown up with a supportive family that instilled me with a strong work ethic and set of morals. I would describe myself as honest, humble and quiet, but always present, and willing to go out of my way to help when needed.

These values and my love of sports and science led me to become a physical therapist, a career that I've been in for a decade. It is so rewarding to help people in my community with various health problems regain abilities and improve their quality of life.

My favorite part of my day is hanging out with Erin after work and playing with our two dogs. I enjoy partnering with Erin on various projects, from remodeling to building things in our workshop. In my free time, I like to spend time on the water fishing or walking in the forest. I love to exercise - running, biking, lifting weights. I also enjoy reading fiction as well as playing games on my computer. Erin and I recently began playing a lot of Super Nintendo games from our childhood, which has been fun! I look forward to sharing these interests/hobbies with our future child.

### F U N F A C T S

- Favorite season: Fall. I love the morning crispy air and crunchy leaves.
- Favorite food: Jambalaya
- Favorite Drink: Coffee (made at home - sipping on the deck)
- Favorite Animal: Moose

## ABOUT ERIN IN DOUG'S WORDS

Erin is extremely smart and is one of the most outgoing individuals I know. She has this unique ability to connect with strangers. When I catch her striking up conversations with strangers, afterwards she'll usually tell me, "in today's world, people need to hear nice things".

Erin is a joy to watch interacting with kids. She engages their minds and teaches them about the world around them. Erin will be a great mom and I can't wait for her to share her passion for plants, gardening, nature, and science.



Top: Erin's typical "jumpy pic" pose in Colorado. Bottom: Posing with skeletons in clinic.

## ABOUT DOUG IN ERIN'S WORDS



Carrying our niece while exploring the Twin Cities. She did not want "Uncle Duckling" to put her down.



Doug can't help but perform "feats of strength" when big rocks are around!

Doug is honestly my favorite person (this title will be up for grabs once a child joins our family!). I am 100% certain he will make an amazing dad. Watching him play with and care for the kids in our life is heartwarming. Whether playing soccer, teaching chess, or giving piggy back rides, he's up for anything!

Doug is generous, caring, and patient. He is loyal to his loved ones. He is reliable, humble, and truly the nicest person I know. Although he can seem quiet when you first meet him, if given the chance, he cracks hilarious jokes. (He has been practicing "dad jokes" since we brought the pups home!) He will be a wonderful male role model and example of a great husband, father, and friend to our future child.

# Why adoption?

## ADOPTION WAS ALWAYS OUR FIRST CHOICE!

It's true - adoption has just always been how we visualized growing our family. For years, we have been trying to figure out when the "right" time was to start the process. After really examining our marriage, our support system, and individual and life goals, we realized we're ready to start the journey!



Doug in a ridiculous hat posing with Ollie while hiking in the beautiful Wisconsin fall.



One of our favorite activities: enjoying mountain views somewhere in North Carolina.



All dressed up for Erin's work party at a local NFL football stadium.

**LOVE  
MAKES A  
FAMILY**

# HOME SWEET HOME



## We live in a 4 bedroom, 3 bath home...

...in a quiet neighborhood in a small Wisconsin city. The area has a bunch of family-friendly activities, like farmer's markets, festivals, botanical gardens, zoos, children's museums and orchards.

Our neighborhood is very established, with a great mix of young families through retirees. We live near several parks with playgrounds, walking trails, and schools.

Our home has 4 bedrooms + 3 bathrooms, and houses Doug's home office and Erin's laser craft business. We also have a bedroom ready to go as a nursery. Our fenced-in backyard is regularly monitored by our pups, who enjoy supervising Erin's organic produce and flower gardens.

## community facts

- One block to a walking trail and 4 blocks to another!
- Four blocks to our elementary school.
- Our city is dubbed "the toilet paper capital of the world". 😊 It was also recently named the #1 city to live in the US.
- Our city has an amusement park with Elvis Presley's favorite wooden rollercoaster!



# CABIN SWEET CABIN



Doug showing off Erin's "biggest fish" catch (because she's afraid to touch fish!).



Sunset views from our dock are so calming (unless mosquitoes are out!)



Ollie's favorite cabin activities (besides hiking) are sun bathing and chewing sticks.



We get a LOT of snow - here it's taller than Huey! Our neighbor plows our driveway with an old farm tractor.

## fun facts

- Erin's favorite local festival celebrates mushrooms and is called the **humongous fungus festival!**
- We enjoy watching the wildlife - there's a fox family in the neighborhood, as well as many deer and squirrels. We've even seen moose, beavers, a black bear, and otters!
- In the summer, we listen for the loon calls every night and enjoy bonfires.

We are fortunate enough to have a lake cottage in remote Michigan on a small, wake-free lake.

When we aren't renovating, we can be found on the lake - Erin is usually kayaking while Doug keeps trying to break Erin's "biggest fish" record! In the winter, we like to snowshoe and sled down our personal sledding hill. We also go to the town's annual "Ice Shanty Parade" which honestly looks as quaint as a Hallmark Christmas movie!

We also enjoy exploring the nearby state parks, chasing waterfalls (of which there are MANY nearby!), finding new swimming holes, and hunting for wild berries.

Huey likes to chase frogs along the waterfront while Ollie prefers to soak up the sun on the dock.

We are so excited to teach our future child the benefits of connecting with nature.

# MEET OUR PUPS

## Ollie + Huey

Ollie (11) and Huey (10) are the best snugglers. They join us on nearly every adventure, and have been on more roadtrips than we can count. They're trail experts (having been to many national, state, and county parks), but also enjoy restaurants with dog-friendly patios, just in case their humans "accidentally" spill.

At home, they take guard dog duty very seriously, alerting us to every mailperson and monitoring the perimeter of our fenced-in backyard. Huey especially likes to make sure there aren't squirrels at our birdfeeders.

At the end of a long day, they both run to the couch for cuddles, each having their own reserved "spot".

We truly think they'll enjoy a little human in the home (and not just for their table scraps that will likely come their way).



The pups are used to Doug messing with them, so it will be no different when a little human joins the pack!



Ollie and Erin stop for a rest while out hiking to waterfalls.



**OLLIE (11)**

### *Favorite things*

- Couch snuggles and eating snow
- Sun bathing
- Toy: frisbee (fetch!)



**HUEY (10)**

### *Favorite things*

- Monitoring the fenced-in yard
- Chasing squirrels (his nemesis)
- Toy: eggplant or big orange ball



Erin with her brothers



Doug making sure our niece sees the whole world (safely).



Exploring Utah with Erin's family.



Doug giggling with one of our nephews.



Doug's parents snuggling up for some holiday photos! They're so excited for a grandchild!



Erin making silly faces with her niece in Park City, UT

## OUR FAMILY

Both sets of our parents still live in the same town we grew up in, about a 30-minute drive from our home, and are very excited to spoil a new grandchild!

Doug has four older half-siblings who live in the area. Erin is also the youngest, with her two older brothers living about 3 and 5 hours away. We enjoy spending time with our niece and nephews, who are also very excited about a new playmate!

Our extended family lives all over the US, and we can't wait to visit them all with the newest little human in our lives!

# OUR TRADITIONS

## Favorite Outdoor Activities

- **WINTER:** snowshoeing, sledding
- **SPRING:** start gardening
- **SUMMER:** kayaking, foraging
- **FALL:** leaves, pumpkin carving

Living in the Midwest, we are lucky to enjoy all four seasons, which we can't wait to share with our future child!

Christmastime is filled with family, friends, cookie decorating, and Erin's mom's famous peanut butter balls!

Summer is spent outside as much as possible. We enjoy going to farm stands and orchards to pick fruits. On July 4, we head to a secret beach to watch fireworks lit off by all the surrounding towns.

To Doug, "fall" = "football"! But, we also go to pumpkin patches, dress up for Halloween, and check out fall leaf displays!



Our first couples costume for Halloween: Loofah & a bar of soap.



Ollie's homemade Halloween costume: Poop Factory!



No matter where we go in winter, we always look for Christmas lights! This pic is from Salt Lake City, UT.



Doug has practice carrying babies around while hiking; here's a brand new Huey puppy!



Summers are for exploring, but also for hammock lounging! Here's Erin "relaxing" with our niece.

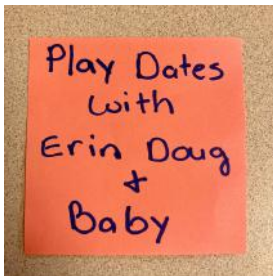


Summer is also nice for giant Jenga and other yard games!

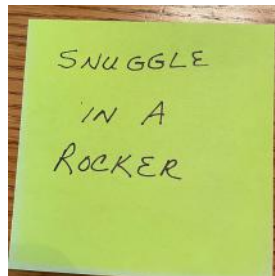
# our village

We wanted to show you how excited our loved ones are about our adoption. So, we asked our friends/family to **write one thing on a post-it note that they're excited to share with a new child** in the family.

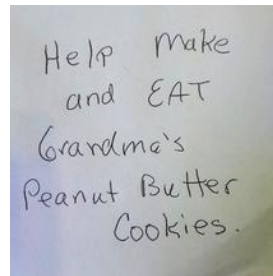
Here are their responses!



Katie, friend & mom to Jaxon (2)



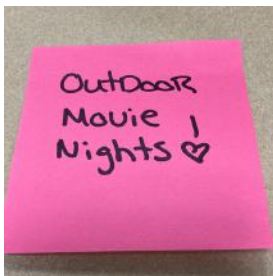
Gramma Sheri (Erin's mom)



Grandma Deb (Doug's mom) makes excellent desserts!



Cousin Sammy (5)



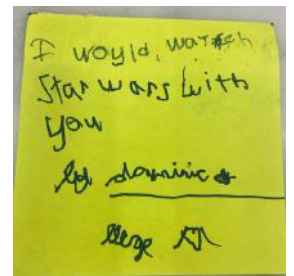
Molly, friend & mom to Lily (<1)



Uncle Brian



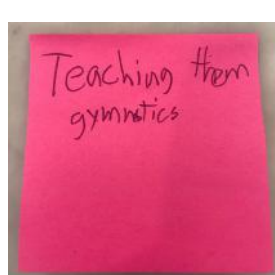
Aunt Kristine



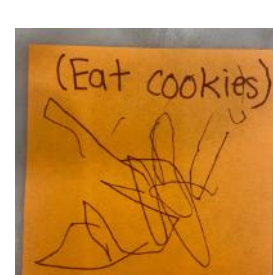
Cousin Dominic (8)



"Aunt" Caitlin (Erin's college roommate)



Cousin Gianna (11)



Cousin Marco (age 2)



Kate, friend & mom to Ansel (8), Odin (7), & Poe (3)

# OUR ADVENTURES

We **love** to travel. Experiencing new places and cultures is incredibly important to us, as it teaches about the diversity this world has to offer. We make it a priority to travel on a "big trip" outside of the Midwest at least twice per year.

We enjoy mixing nature and big-city amenities on our trips. Many of our photos show the incredible natural beauty we enjoy exploring. Erin is also always on the hunt to try out new gluten free restaurants/bakeries (she has Celiac Disease, which requires a gluten free diet).

**We are so excited about the opportunity to travel with a child and view the world through their eyes!**

## *Favorite travels*

**OUR FAVORITE PLACE EVER  
MAINE COAST**

**BEST STREET FOOD  
PORTLAND, OREGON FOOD TRUCKS**

**BEST SUNSET  
ANYWHERE ALONG LAKE SUPERIOR COAST**

**BUCKET LIST  
VISIT ALL NATIONAL PARKS**

White House "jumpy pic"! We're eager to return to DC and explore the museums.



Doug + Huey at an amazing waterfall in Utah.



Morning selfie after a chilly night car camping at Grand Teton National Park.



Selfie stop in the desert!



Lighthouse hunting in Maine. We can't wait to return.



"Uncle Duckling" teaching our nephews how to fish on a family trip.



We like the challenge of coming up with fun poses for pictures!



Hiking with the pups at Washington Island, WI.

# Thank you



We have thought about what to write to you countless times, finding it difficult to write this book without knowing you. While we are very excited about the prospect of becoming parents, we realize how difficult this decision and process must be for you. We do not take for granted how fortunate we are to be considered as adoptive parents.

We appreciate you taking the time to look at our profile and welcome the opportunity to get to know each other better.

*with respect,*  
ERIN & DOUG