

# LAUREN & TODD

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Profile Book

*"The love we give away  
is the only love we keep"*

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Elbert Hubbard



# HELLO

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Hello, we are Todd and Lauren. Thank you so much for taking the time to review our profile. We are amazed by your strength, bravery, and courage in making this decision. We have been together for eleven years and always knew that adoption would be part of our journey. Todd's parents, who were married for 43 years, fostered 175 children, with Todd as their main support. Lauren has 15 years of experience working with at-risk children, youth, and individuals with addictions as a Mental Health Therapist. We share this information to offer you a glimpse into our hearts.

We have a deep connection and friendship, and we cannot wait for this next chapter in parenthood. Our home is a place where family gathers for holidays, friends are always welcome, and everyone leaves with peace and joy in their hearts. We work hard, love to travel, and strive to make life as fun as possible.

As you look through our profile, we hope that we have conveyed the playfulness, openness, and security that we have created in our home and in our marriage. To you, we say thank you for your consideration. Please follow your heart when making this challenging decision. We promise to respect you during this process and to love you, as well as this little one, giving them the best life we possibly can.

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*Lauren & Todd*



# MEET LAUREN

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Mental Health Therapist  
38 years old

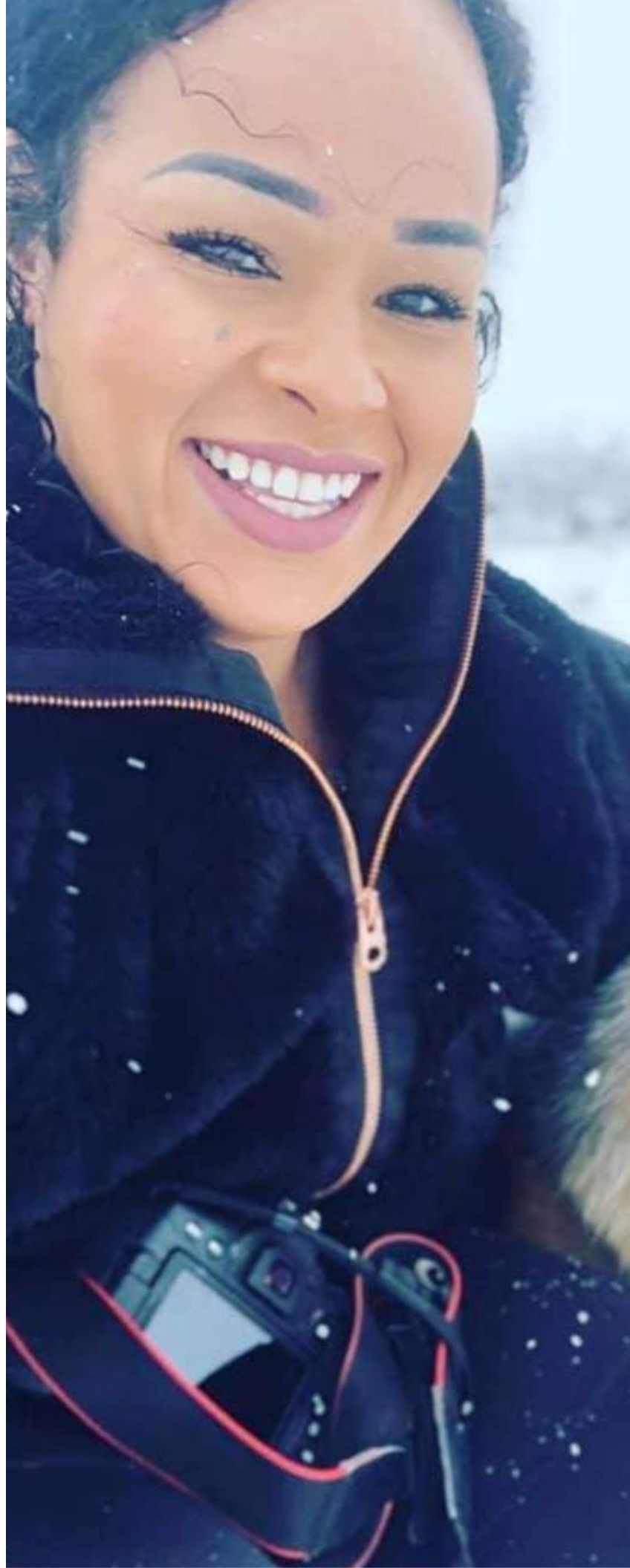
I grew up in a major city in Texas and had a less-than-ideal childhood. I was raised by my mother without any familial support due to addiction running deeply on both sides of my family. I found my escape from my adversities in basketball and learning. I struggled with addiction and boundaries in my teenage years, but I also knew I wanted to break the family cycles that my parents and grandparents so deeply struggled with.

When I reached my college years, I started taking Psychology classes to better understand my own life choices, as well as those of my parents. After receiving my Bachelor's degree in Psychology, I began working in an adolescent drug rehabilitation center. My very first day at work showed me clearly that I had faced so many challenges so that I could better empathize with others as I helped them recover from difficult times and choices. While treating addiction, I quickly learned that trauma was a common underlying precursor, which motivated me to attend graduate school. I earned my Master's degree and began specializing in treating women and teens with trauma and addiction. Through my work and my own therapy journey, I have grown tremendously and can proudly say that I have broken the family cycle. Over the years, relationships with parents have been mended, and relationships with half-siblings and extended family have been established and developed.

Currently, I am a telehealth therapist with the ability to work from anywhere and create my own hours. This will be invaluable once I become a mother, as Todd and I both have flexible schedules to spend the majority of our time with a child.

I do my best to maintain a healthy work/personal balance. I work out most days of the week, enjoy hikes and walks outdoors, and love tending to my garden, animals, and plants. I am a nurturer at heart and take care of people by doing special things, cooking good meals, and trying to be a light in everyone's life that I come into contact with. I have many long-term friendships, and they all can't wait for us to have a child that everyone can love.

As a mom, my main goal is to keep our child safe, show them unconditional love without restrictions, teach them healthy boundaries and self-respect, as well as determination and motivation through healthy consequences and accountability.





## WHAT TODD LOVES ABOUT LAUREN

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Lauren's name speaks for itself. 'L' is for loving and loyal, and 'A' is for affirming and affectionate. 'U' is for understanding and unfailing, 'R' is for radiant and reliable. 'E' is for empathetic and energetic, 'N' is for nurturing and nice. She embodies each of these qualities and so much more.

Over the years we've spent together, Lauren has been an incredible wife, best friend, and confidant, and I wouldn't change a thing about her. She has a deep sense of family, loves to cook, and takes care of people with unwavering dedication. Lauren is the true definition of a woman of essence.

She's the kind of person you meet and never forget. People are naturally drawn to her, and I have no doubt that she'll be the same kind of mother mine was. Lauren is accepting and compassionate, always willing to help others. She easily connects with people from all walks of life, regardless of their background or past mistakes. She sees the best in people and loves deeply.





## WHAT LAUREN LOVES ABOUT TODD

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Todd's selflessness, compassion, and patience were evident from our first meeting. Beyond being a loving provider, he serves as my unwavering emotional support and biggest cheerleader; always willing to make our lives easier.

Todd values the strength of family bonds, nurtured through our annual family reunions at our ranch. These gatherings have solidified friendships with his cousins, some of whom are now my closest confidants. This child will be warmly embraced by a network of young cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Todd's qualities extend to his potential as a father. He readily takes on nighttime childcare duties, showcasing his commitment. His exceptional communication skills and fair, gentle approach to discipline assure me of his parenting abilities.

As a Christian, Todd believes in the strength of marriage, recognizing its importance in child-rearing. His boundless energy will make him a great hands-on parent. Todd's versatility will enable him to impart valuable life skills to this child; nurturing their growth and development.



# MEET TODD

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Funeral Director, Farmer,  
and whatever else my wife needs me to be that day  
45 years old.

I feel that writing about myself will be the hardest part because I am the type of person who takes care of everyone else's needs first, then my own. With my wife being a counselor, she definitely stresses to me how we have to prioritize ourselves, but when she is happy, chores are done, and work is complete, I can truly be happy knowing that I was able to assist with everything. I am the type of man who values hard work and leadership. My parents, who were married for 43 years, taught me a lot about being an independent man but also showing emotions and compassion for others. I had very happy childhood years, played with friends, participated in all sports and played musical instruments, and got to spend lots of time with cousins and other family members who I am still very close to. I came from a very large family, and now that most of the elders have passed, I do my best to keep the legacy alive in the hometown where six generations of my ancestors established themselves many years ago.

I went to a large university for college and received a Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering. I also pledged in two fraternities and played in the highly competitive HBCU marching band. While away at school, my mother opened a funeral home because she wanted to be the one who put all of our loved ones to rest during their transition. When my brother and I graduated from college, we immediately went to mortuary school so that we could help my mother with the family business. I am currently running the funeral home my mom and dad built from the ground up, and my brother and I have also opened two additional ones. I have always had a passion for livestock like my father, so I find balance between running the business and running the farm at our home. I have also spent many years teaching adolescents in an alternative school, doing case management in the juvenile justice system, and assisting with foster care. Over the years, I have learned what an empathetic and caring person I am. I consider myself to be humble, funny, patient, and thoughtful. I can be a little stubborn, but I also always try to make sure I put a smile on people's faces and compromise when needed. Being a father is always a role I have wanted to fill, and we are very excited to enter into this next chapter.





## *Our Little World*

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All of our children have four legs and fur. Before Todd's mother passed away, she would always call and ask how her grand goats or grand dogs were doing. We have also added cows, pigs, and cats to our family, but you never know what other animals Lauren will rescue or Todd will say we cannot live without! One thing is for sure; they all can't wait to meet the newest member of our family!





## *Our Home*

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We purchased our house three years ago and have poured a lot of love and effort into making it our dream home. Our home rests on 10 acres of land with a pond stocked with fish and turtles. It's a single-story house with three bedrooms, two living rooms, and plenty of windows that overlook the peaceful countryside and our animals. Our home is where everyone gathers to unwind and relax. We have a 2,000-square-foot deck where we gather nightly to watch the sunset, and a front porch adorned with plants where we enjoy our morning coffee. Our extensive garden yields a variety of vegetables, which we trade with our neighbors for fresh eggs.

We are cautious about who we allow into our home, ensuring they contribute to our positive energy and preserve our peace. Our rural community is tightly-knit; many widowed women in the area rely on Todd to ensure their safety and assist with any needs. Lauren takes pride in her decorating skills, and there's no limit to how many Christmas trees go up during the holidays. Todd finds joy in maintaining the yard and keeping the area around the house clean. We're both creative and enjoy unwinding through projects together, so our home is constantly evolving. Both of us are tidy and organized individuals who take pride in maintaining a well-kept home.

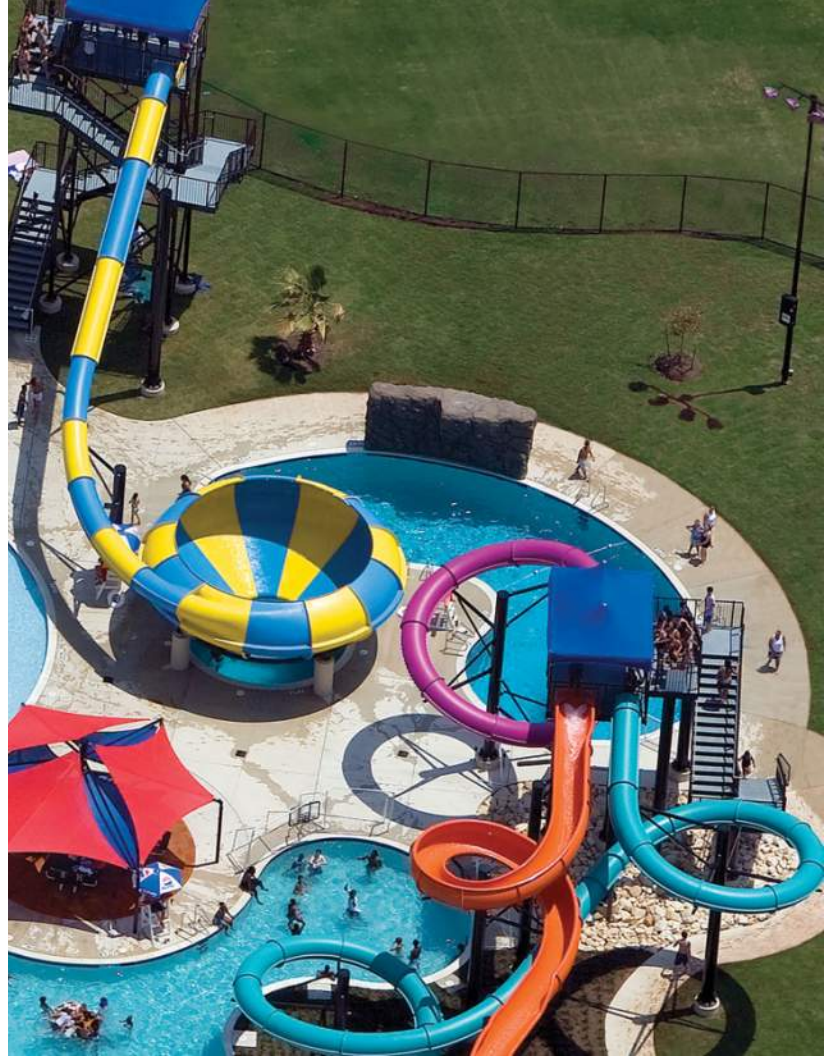


## *Our Community*

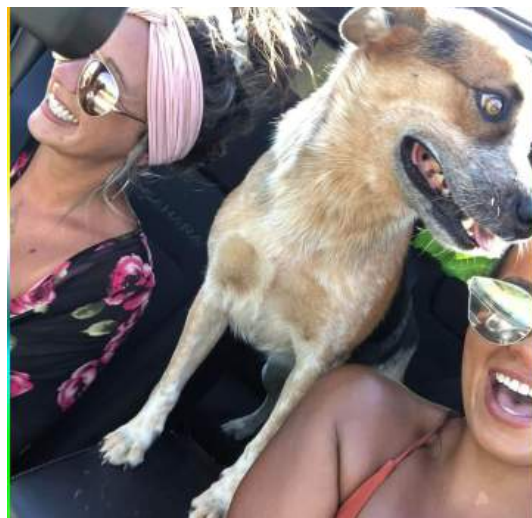
In the heart of the Texas Hill Country, everyone knows your name, children still play outside, and it's safe enough to leave your doors unlocked. Todd is the sixth generation to be born and raised in our city, and our last name and community involvement are well-known.

Despite being in a rural area, our community is progressive and diverse. We have a moderately sized college campus, and numerous city expansion projects, with younger generations opening trendy businesses. Festivals, farmers markets, parades, and community events are frequent in our historic downtown. There's also a large nature trail by the river, where Lauren enjoys morning walks and looks forward to bringing our little one along.

Our school district is renowned for both sports and academics, and on Friday nights, you'll find most of the city gathered under the football stadium lights. Our location in Texas is convenient for travel; within under three hours, you can drive to many major cities, all while enjoying the beautiful wildflowers and rolling hills. Less than five miles from our house, there's a large lake where we spend our summers boating.







# Fun Facts

Todd was a member of two college fraternities and can still play nearly any instrument he picks up.

During the summer, Todd and Lauren enjoy off-roading in their Jeep and spending time on the water boating.

Lauren has a passion for cooking and often hosts Sunday dinners for friends and family.

Both Todd and Lauren share a love for fishing, although Lauren handles baiting the line, as Todd prefers not to touch the fish!

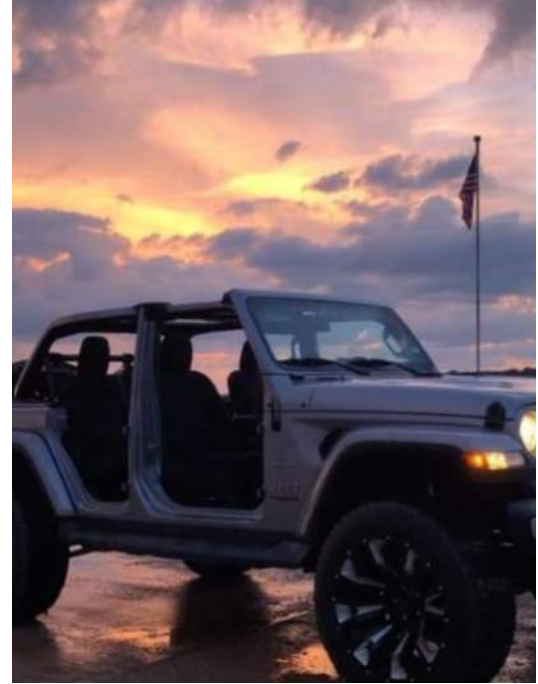
Lauren loves hiking and chasing waterfalls.

Todd enjoys caring for their bottle-fed animals.

Lauren actively participates in Women Empowerment conferences within her community.

We have a large collection of house plants in our home.

Todd and Lauren enjoy coordinating their outfits!



# OUR FAMILY

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# OUR PROMISE

We have tried to present the most authentic and genuine portrayal of ourselves and our lifestyle. Parenting doesn't come with a manual for every situation, so our promise is to actively listen, pay attention to the details, and provide exposure to the world to foster a better understanding of diverse cultures and environments. We are committed to offering this child choices and unwavering acceptance. In times of difficulty, we will seek support and guidance.

Our goal is to instill patience, independence, perseverance, and fortitude in this child. They will grow up in a home filled with love, laughter, and, equally importantly, with healthy boundaries and respect. To the best of our ability, we will protect and nurture this child. We are grateful, not only for your strength, but also for your selflessness.

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*Lauren & Todd*