



Carrie
& Ryan

Dear Friend,

Thank you for taking the time to read our profile and getting to know us! We look forward to getting to know you as well.

We want you to know that you have been in our thoughts and prayers for a long time, even though we have not yet met.

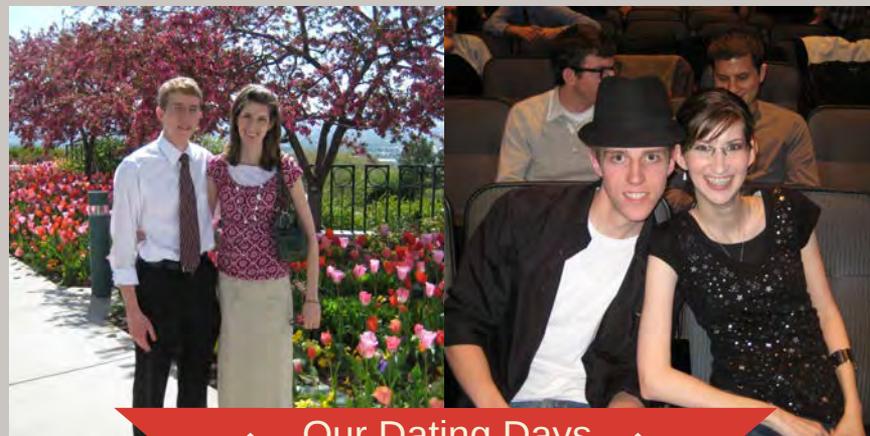
We imagine you are facing some difficult decisions, but we know you must be a brave, courageous person, and we are so grateful for your strength.

With love from,

Carrie & Ryan



We met while we were finishing our degrees in Utah in 2009. Carrie thought she'd never have time to date, between a full-time job and full-time school, but Ryan cleverly invited her to weekly Sunday dinners, because, hey, who doesn't want to eat food they didn't have to cook? Carrie soon saw what a kind, thoughtful person Ryan was, and fell in love.



Our Dating Days



We were married in August of 2010 and immediately moved to Texas (back to Carrie's home state!), where Ryan completed a doctoral program in Biochemistry at Texas A&M University.



While Ryan was in school, we decided to start a family. Our first pregnancy ended in early miscarriage, and after that, we found we needed to turn to a fertility specialist for help conceiving. After months and months of different medications, shots, ultrasounds, and procedures, we found out we were pregnant with a baby boy!

When Carrie was about 32 weeks pregnant, she went to the doctor complaining about how swollen her ankles were. Her blood pressure was also very high, so the doctor admitted her to the hospital for observation. Four days later, our son Robbie was born via emergency C-section. Robbie was taken up to the NICU, and Carrie was taken to the ICU, where she stayed for 3 days. There were complications from the surgery, and it was a scary time for all of us. Ryan split his time between staying with Carrie in the first-floor ICU and with Robbie in the 3rd floor NICU. Happily, after about 2 months, we were all finally home together.



In the ICU, just after the C-section



In the NICU, just after Robbie was born



Our first family picture, a week after Robbie was born

Because of Robbie's precarious birth, it was clear to us that no other biological children would be joining our family. It would simply be too dangerous for Carrie and for the babies. But we are so grateful to have the opportunity to continue growing our family through adoption! Our family means everything to us! We love and cherish each other, and we can't wait to have more little ones to share our love with.



Our home is a happy one, filled with love, laughter, and prayer, and we are so grateful that you are considering giving us this precious gift. If you choose us, we will be happy to have open communication with you, if it is your desire.

We promise that your baby will grow up knowing that he or she is a child of God who came from someone very special—you.

About Carrie

- Has lived in Texas her whole life, except for while she lived in Utah for college
- Has a BS degree in Marriage, Family, and Human Development from Brigham Young University
- Has an MFHD degree in Family & Human Development from Utah State University
- Has a witty sense of humor and loves to make people laugh
- Loves to be creative through writing and attempts at crafting
- Is an avid baker, which is great news for Ryan!
- Has been a stay-at-home mom since Robbie was born and has no plans to change careers



Preschool



Honor Roll



HS Band Concert



Disney World 2001



BYU Apartment



Our Wedding Day



Robbie's 1st Christmas



Summer 2016

Carrie, through Ryan's Eyes

**We started out as friends,
and soon we became best
friends.**

**Being a mom
means the
world to her.**

She almost died giving birth to our son Robbie, yet despite the trauma of that experience, she loves Robbie with all her heart, and I know she would willingly endure it all again for him if it were required.

**I think Carrie understands
Robbie better than anybody.**

Robbie doesn't always see the world like a "normal" kid does, and Carrie is so good at adapting her parenting style to meet his needs.

During grad school, her support for me cannot be overstated. From cheering me on, to keeping me fed, she was my strongest advocate during the most difficult points of that process, as well as during the highlights.

**THERE WERE
TIMES WHEN I
WASN'T SURE I
COULD DO IT,
BUT I DON'T
THINK SHE
EVER HAD ANY
DOUBTS.**

**I LOVE CARRIE AND I'M SO HAPPY AND BLESSED TO BE
MARRIED TO HER. TO PARAPHRASE BILL WATTERSON,**

she is the sun, moon, earth, and stars to me.

About Ryan

- Grew up in Colorado
- Lived in Argentina for 2 years after high school while serving a mission for our church
- Speaks fluent Spanish
- Has a BS degree in Biochemistry
- Has an PhD in Biochemistry from Texas A&M University
- Prefers warm weather to cold, so he was happy to move to Texas when we got married
- Has a black belt in tae kwon do, so he's basically a human Ninja Turtle
- Loves candy of any kind (except black licorice)
- Is a talented artist and singer
- Now works as a science writer/teacher for students preparing to take the MCAT



Ryan, through Carrie's Eyes

It wasn't hard to fall in love with Ryan.

He shows me every day that Robbie and I are more important to him than anything else.

Ryan is totally unselfish and responsible to the core. If someone asks him for help, he gives it and gives it well. He is loyal to his employer and to those he works with at church. And he has the patience of Job.

Ryan is genuine, intelligent, courageous, honest, and compassionate. He is a devoted husband and father, and I love him with all my heart.

Ryan takes great pride in being a “nerd.” To us, that simply means that he is deeply committed to his interests, including singing (especially a capella), science and astronomy, and the comic strip Calvin and Hobbes. He loves to share his interests with others, and he patiently teaches me about them so I can be excited along with him.

I'm not exaggerating when I say that I'm amazed by him.

About Robbie

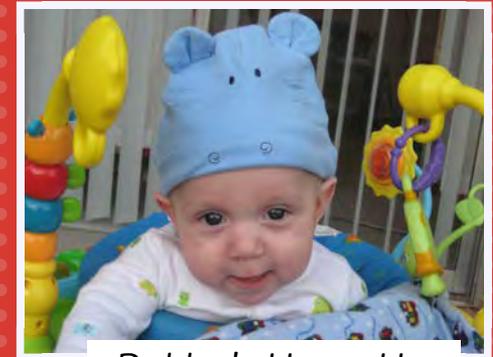
- Was born almost 8 weeks early and stayed in the NICU for 2 months
- Is now a thriving 5-year-old
- Has been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Has an amazing memory, especially for music and stories
- Loves anything to do with letters, shapes, and colors
- Loves playing in the water
- Does not like crowds, especially when they are very noisy
- Has the BEST laugh and uses it often
- Loves stuffed animals
- Loves pepperoni pizza, burgers, yogurt, and chocolate milk



Heading to the Beach



Robbie's 1st Birthday



Robbie's Hippo Hat



Robbie & Ralph Monkey



Family Vacation 2017



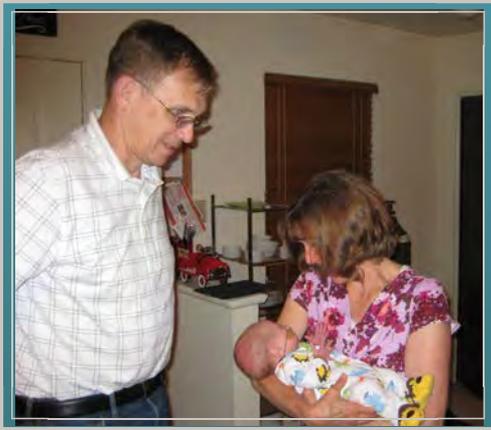
School Field Trip to WinKids Gym

Grandparents



We learned from our parents how to be champions for our children and how to make sure they have their best chances in life.

Grandma & Grandpa



Ryan with his grandparents



Ryan's dad is as funny as he is tall. He is a retired electrical engineer and loves to go hiking and skiing in the mountains of Colorado. Ryan's mom is as sweet as she is tiny. She was a stay-at-home mom, and she LOVES being a grandma!



Grandma & Pop



Carrie's dad is a CPA and avid ham radio operator. Carrie gets her sense of humor from him, and they love to trade wisecracks when they're together. Carrie's mom was a stay-at-home mom and is known as "The Pie Lady" for her outstanding baking abilities.



Aunts, Uncles, & Cousins

Ryan has one older brother and one older sister...



...and Carrie has one older sister and one older brother!



We have 7 nieces and nephews on Ryan's side...



...and 7 nieces and nephews on Carrie's side!

Carrie's sister, one of her best friends, is profoundly deaf. Having a sibling with a disability helped her develop compassion for those who are struggling.

Our Faith

Carrie

I have been a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints my whole life. It has strengthened me through great trials, like miscarriage and infertility, to small trials like not knowing how to convince my toddler to put his pants on so we could be on time for school! I'm grateful to be part of a church that emphasizes happiness in families, because my family means more to me than anything else in the world, and one of my biggest goals in life is to teach my children how much they are loved by their mom and dad on Earth, and by their Father in Heaven.

Ryan

My family is the most important thing in the world to me, and supporting them financially, emotionally, and spiritually is my top priority. I spend as much time with them as I can. I have also been a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints my whole life, and I am grateful for my faith. It teaches me that I can be with my family forever, and I will do everything in my power to make that a reality.

Some of our Beliefs & Practices

- God is our Father in Heaven, who loves us
- Jesus Christ is His Son and our Savior and Redeemer
- Prayers are answered
- Families can be together forever
- We have family prayer & scripture study every day
- We value family dinner time
- We attend church every Sunday
- We look for opportunities to serve others as Christ did



We were married in this temple

Some of Our Favorite Things



Our Faith in Jesus Christ



Eating Out!



The Duchess of Cambridge



Kittens & Puppies



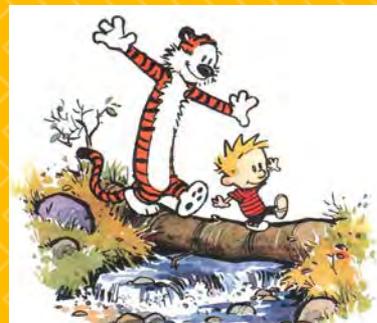
Harry Potter books



Date Night at Home



Reading with Robbie

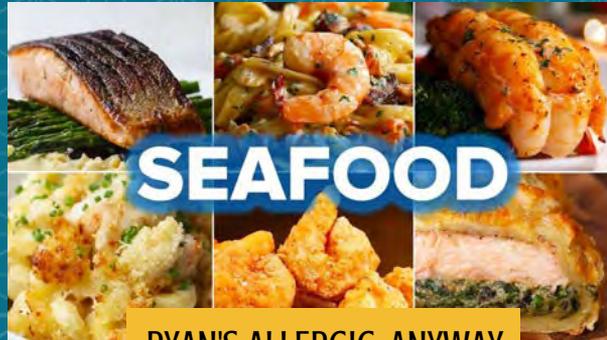


Calvin & Hobbes



Disney World

Some Things We Don't Like



SEAFOOD

RYAN'S ALLERGIC, ANYWAY



HORROR MOVIES



MOVING

(THIS WAS OUR FIRST HOUSE AFTER WE UNPACKED EVERYTHING)



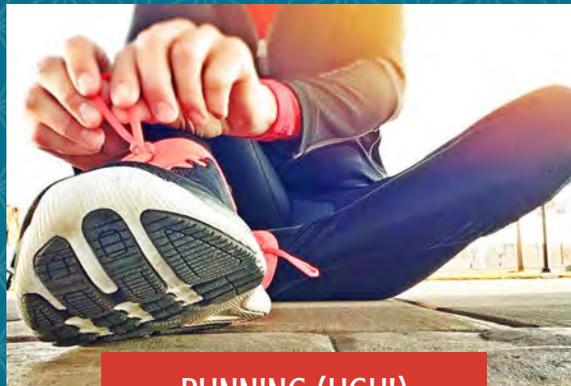
NO EXPLANATION NEEDED HERE, RIGHT?



SWEARING/CUSSING/POTTY MOUTH



*BUT CARRIE LIKES THEIR BREAKFASTS



RUNNING (UGH!)



CARVING PUMPKINS (THEIR INSIDES ARE SO ICKY!)

Our Hobbies



Music

~ Ryan formed his own singing group ~
~ Carrie plays the flute and piano ~

Swimming



Escape Rooms and Mystery Games



Astronomy

Sewing, Arts & Crafts



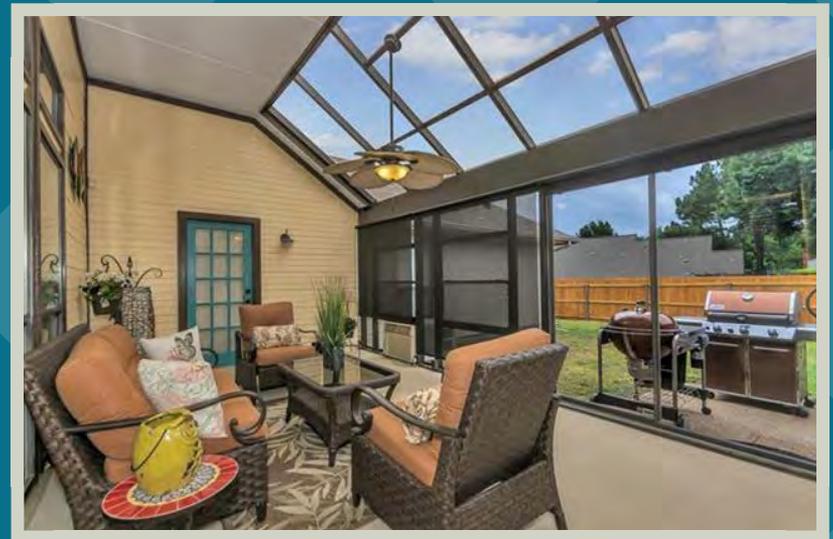
Baking



Our Home & Community



- We bought our house in 2017
- We have 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
- There is a solarium looking out onto our fenced-in backyard



- Our town has a population of about 73,500
- It was ranked 21 in the top 50 cities in the southern US with the best quality of life
- We are the 17th safest city in the US
- Our elementary school received a 9/10 rating on GreatSchools.org
- We have a great community center, 2 libraries, and several parks with playgrounds
- We are close to the DFW metroplex, so there is always plenty to do!

Home is
where the
heart is



Blooper Reel

Life isn't always perfect, and neither are our pictures!

