

## Debbie & Sean

Dear Birthmother,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read our letter. We're honored to share our story with you as you consider your choices. We admire your courage and your commitment to providing your child with the best possible life. Our commitment to you, if chosen to be the adoptive parents for your child, is to raise your child to feel loved by both you and us and to give your child all the opportunities to realize their dreams. Thank you for considering us as a possible adoptive family for your expected child.

Sightseeing in Bermuda!

We have known, now, for a long time that we can't conceive a child. Doctors said it was "unexplained" infertility. We went through a few infertility treatments but they were unsuccessful. Although it was disappointing when the infertility treatments didn't work, we stayed positive and talked about expanding our family through adoption. We knew we always wanted to have a family together and it didn't matter to us how that would happen. We are very excited and look forward to loving a child who comes to us by a very special person. Our lives will be even more blessed than we have already known if we are able to share our love with a child.

There's a lot we'd like to share with you to help you get to know us. We both grew up with parents who know how to care for each other and stay together, through thick and thin. Both sets of our parents have been married for over forty years each. We're as proud of that number as we are of the lessons we learned along the way that help us value and respect each other in our own marriage. Our parents have always believed that good communication, honesty, respect and a sense of humor was a good recipe for a solid marriage. We feel we have all of that along with kindness and a lot of love to share. We believe that one of the best gifts we can give our future child is the knowledge that her or his parents are deeply in love and have a solid commitment to each other and to them.



Debbie and our nephew Zackery

One Christmas, before we were married, we'd celebrated with each other and each of our families. Sean knew I had a decorated box in which I stored a favorite ornament that he had given me a few years before. This one Christmas, after all the boxes, torn wrapping paper and tossed bows were all gathered up and all the presents were propped up for us to enjoy, Sean brought over the decorative box. I thought we were done exchanging gifts; when I opened the box, Sean had hidden an engagement ring inside. After saying yes, we rushed to share the good news with our families.

This is both a fond memory and also something of a tradition - from the beginning, it's been important that romance and fun be part of our daily lives and our relationship. Sean & I met at work and were friends for a few years before we decided to go on a date. We had gone out, as a group, to company softball games and get-togethers and always had great conversations. Our first date was a Red Sox game and we knew right away that we had something special. We never had to

worry about finding something to talk about. We both enjoy baseball so it was a perfect first date. We laughed and enjoyed the game and spending time together. We have a mutual respect and admiration for each other. We communicate wonderfully together and love to make each other laugh.

After dating for about four years, we decided to plan an intimate wedding in Bermuda. We knew some of our family members wouldn't be able to make the trip so we planned to celebrate with both families and friends at a restaurant in Boston. We thought it would be romantic to fly off and get married. It was a beautiful wedding! We got married on the beach right near our



Our wedding in Bermuda.

cottage at sunset. We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful setting. We had our wedding planner and photographer as our witnesses and we were 'visited' by a crane that "flew in" unexpectedly! The photographer told us that it was good luck to have the crane watching over our nuptials. We then enjoyed a candlelight dinner in our own private cove. One of our favorite memories from our wedding week in Bermuda was a scavenger hunt that my friend Lisa had left for us while she was there just a few days before our arrival. She emailed us clues to find different items around Bermuda that she hid. Things like stones with sayings on them that represented us as a couple. She wrote our names on a palm tree

leaf. We had such a great time looking for these things-it was something different and really got us even more excited to start our new journey together! We plan on returning to Bermuda someday with our child and go back to that same palm tree to find our names, and of course add our child's name to it!



Debbie and our nephew Kevin relaxing at the beach!



Debbie & our nephew Connor

**Debbie**: I love Sean because he is the sweetest, most amazing person I know. He makes me smile and feel good about myself. We laugh constantly. He doesn't complain and would do anything for anyone. He is so great with children. Our nieces, nephews and friends children all love him. Sean has such a wonderful personality that the children of our friends and our nieces and nephews just love playing with him. I love his reaction to when one of the kids does something cute or goofy-you can see he enjoys the kids as much as they enjoy him. He will be a wonderful, caring father. He is a beautiful person inside and out. He is a great person to everyone he knows. He shows respect to everyone he comes in contact with-just an all around great guy. He calls me every night as soon as he leaves work to say he's on his way home and to see how my day was. Little things like making breakfast together on

the weekends or sitting out on our front steps, enjoying the scenery in our yard and watching the rabbits or chipmunks are wonderful moments that we share together and cannot wait to share with our child.

**Sean**: I love Debbie because she is the most kind, unselfish, joyful person I have ever met. I call her sunshine because she is so cheerful and brightens every day. Every morning she kisses me before she goes to work and again when I get home from work. We try to spend as much time together as possible and we always work together as a team. We enjoy having romantic dinners full of conversation then taking long walks around the marina. She genuinely cares for everyone she knows. She routinely calls people on their birthday and sends cards to friends that are having tough times. Debbie has a great sense of humor that is similar to mine so we are always having fun. She is very outgoing to everyone she meets so she easily makes friends. She is great with kids and



Debbie & our nephew Zack at the campground.

gravitates towards babies always wanting to be next in line to hold them. Debbie has a keen sense of self awareness that enables her to keep a level head in the most stressful situations.

Sean and I work, in very different jobs, at the same company. I am an administrative assistant and have been there for 21 years. Sean has been there for almost 10 years and is a computer Network Administrator. We are grateful to have stable jobs in a stable business and will be able to provide for our child and support him/her in whatever way they need in their future. My job is flexible enough that I will be able to work from home and be at home with our child. Sean starts his day a little later than I do so he will be able to have a relaxed breakfast and morning walk with us.

Sean having a chat with our nephew Connor!

Sean & our niece Kathryn at Sean's sister's wedding

One of the things we're keenly aware of is that all children are unique. We will support your child in exploring the activities that are meaningful to them and that they enjoy. If our child wants to play the drums, we have enough space so that they can do so without everyone else wearing ear plugs! If they want to try soccer or softball or the swim team, we'll be their number one fans. If they'd like piano lessons, learn to build things or capture the world with a camera, we'll be right here, making that possible. We've already started an education fund that our child can use towards college or whatever career pursuit is their passion. They will have our support as we did from



Our nieces performing a talent show during our Cape week!

our own families. We look forward to learning more about the unique person he or she is and helping them feel more confident, loved and capable with each passing day.



Our home

We have a beautiful 4 bedroom home in the suburbs outside of Boston. There is plenty of room for children to play and enjoy their friends. It's a peaceful setting on over an acre of land with so much space for our child to run, play and explore. It's a perfect place for us to start our family and we look forward to raising our child here. All the children we know, together with our relatives and friends, love coming here in the winter to sled and build snow forts! We have cookouts in the summer and set up games in both the front and back for everyone to enjoy! We live in a very family oriented town with a great school system. There are plenty of parks, horse stables and town activities to keep us busy. We live close to our three nieces and get together

with them often; when a child joins our family, our guess is that we'll see them even more!

We live close enough to the city that we can, at a moments notice, drive in to catch a Red Sox game or spend the day in Faneuil Hall, which is a large area with shops and food and historic places to stroll. We love going away for vacations, whether it is Cape Cod for a weekend or flying off somewhere tropical. We also enjoy kayaking, taking scenic plane rides over the Cape in the fall and sunset dinner cruises in Boston.



Sean and I have extremely close families. Sean comes from a big family with five siblings. I have a smaller family with two sisters. We only have one nephew on my side of the family but eight nieces/nephews on his side. Both sets of parents have been married for over 40 years and we enjoy spending time with them. My parents love to go camping and love taking our nephew with them; they talk about the future and taking our child with them to camp. Our nephew Zack can't wait to have a new cousin to go camping with! Sean's parents are both retired so there would be plenty



Our nieces & nephews at our home

of visits from Nonnie and Grampa! There are family get-togethers all the time on both sides-there is always something to celebrate! We love spending time with everyone and we know there would be a lot of love shared for the newest addition to our family.



Some of our nieces & nephews at our summer cookout.

Both of us were raised to respect others and to appreciate the unique qualities in all people. We grew up with a sense of faith in the goodness of life and the goodness of others that we will share with our child as well. We believe that honesty is what helps us all to trust each other. We try not to lose sight of the importance of humor, kindness, romance and fun as we go about the routines of the day. We will raise a child to be kind to others, to have compassion and to act in ways that take into account the needs of others alongside their own hopes and wishes.

We feel so blessed to be able to have this opportunity to raise a wonderful human being with strong values and a lot of love and respect. We will always be honest about adoption with our child-it's important to us that the child knows he/she is loved by his/her birthparent(s) as well as by us. Our child will know that he/she is an extraordinary gift given to us and what a special person you are. We will be happy to send updated photos and letters to you in the coming years. We hope that this letter eases your mind that we as prospective adoptive parents would promise to be a loving, caring and nurturing family and provide a safe and stable home for your child.

Debbie and her family

Sean's family from his brothers wedding





Sean's sisters wedding

We are happy to stay in touch with you over the years so that you can always know and be reassured that your decision was a good one for your child. We think a child is lucky if they can know everyone who loves them; we would raise them to respect your decision and to respect you. We admire your strength and want to reassure you that we will provide love, guidance, advocacy and opportunities to help your child fulfill their dreams. We will look to you to know more about whether you'd like to stay in contact and, if so, how you'd like to stay in connection in the years ahead. We would love the opportunity to meet you in person if this is something that would be comfortable for you. We would be happy to send you regular photos and letter updates, set up an on-line photo album and update that regularly, find some mutually good times for an in-person visit - go to lunch or a park so you can know your child while they're growing up.

Thank you again for this unselfish and brave decision that you are considering. We hope you have support of others and love around you to help you during this time. If you would like to learn more about us or to talk with us please feel free to call Full Circle at 1-800-452-3678.

Our very best wishes to you,

Debbie and Sean

