

Javier, Stacy & Maribel





Dear Birth Parents,

Our names are Javier and Stacy. Thank you for taking the time to learn about our family. We hope that you will find us to be the ideal match for your child. We can't say that we know what you are going through as we can only know for sure what we have experienced. However, we do respect you for the sacrifice you are considering for your child and know that without you, we would not have been given another opportunity to be parents.

We have one biological daughter, Maribel, who is five-years-old. Our journey to bring her into this world was one of ease and excitement. After a year, we were ready to expand our family and give Maribel a little brother or sister. Although we were able to get pregnant five more times, each pregnancy ended in a miscarriage. It soon became evident that this was not God's plan for us. It was at this time that we considered adoption as the way to bring a new addition into our joyful and loving family.

We are so excited about the prospects of being adoptive parents and are ready to offer endless amounts of love, security, and joy to your child. We will always speak openly and honestly about you from the very beginning. We are more than willing to share with you photos and letters to the extent in which you are comfortable and for as long as you wish. The pages that follow will give you an idea of who we are as a family and what we hold dear in life.



How we met...

We met at a mutual friends' Halloween costume party on October 31, 1998. Stacy was dressed up as a sheep wearing a full fleece pajama outfit, powdered white hair and face, and a bell that hung around her neck. Javier was dressed up as a Mariachi player with a sombrero on his head and his guitar in hand. During the party, he began to play a few songs by the Mexican rock group, Mana. Much to Javier's surprise, Stacy started to happily sing along with the songs she had known for years. We had no idea that our love for Spanish music, would start a connection that would lead to a fulfilling and loving marriage.

After that first encounter, we were inseparable. While lots of laughter and a love of music brought us together, we soon realized that we were raised with very similar morals, values and beliefs. Five years later we were married on the island of Puerto Rico on November 28, 2003. Many friends and family members traveled to attend our wedding in San Juan and several friends accompanied us to the island of Vieques where we went for our honeymoon! It was an unforgettable time!

Our first year of marriage was a busy yet exciting one. Being an architect, Javier was itching to design and build our first home. Together we decided that would be our first of many projects that we will conquer as a team. At about the same time, we decided to build our family as well. A year later we welcomed our first child into this world: Maribel. She was a true blessing. One week later we moved into our first home as a family of three!



Our First Home



About Javier... by Stacy

My husband is the most patient, positive, and fun-loving person I have ever met. His optimism and creativity influences all the people around him. Being a Dad is his number one priority, and he does it with both enthusiasm and tenderness.

Family

Javier grew up in Puerto Rico and is the youngest of four brothers and one sister. His oldest brother lives in Texas with his wife and three daughters and his other brother lives in Ohio with his wife and three sons. His parents, sister and extended family live in Puerto Rico, and we visit them a couple times a year. It is a tightly knit family with strong loving bonds.

Education

He attended Catholic school throughout his education. Later he followed his older brothers to The Ohio State University where he earned a Master's degree in Architecture. He works as an architect designing houses, schools and government buildings.

Interests

Javier's interests include playing the guitar; listening to music; creating new designs for anything imaginable; and spending time with family and friends. He is quiet, yet witty and is able to put people at ease with his optimistic attitude and love of life. Being artistic, he and Maribel can make the most intricate of playhouses and the most beautiful of murals. Recently he began teaching Maribel how to play the guitar. He is so excited about becoming a Dad to another child, and I know he would cherish him or her just as much as he cherishes Maribel.



About Stacy... by Javier

My wife is intelligent, thoughtful, and fun-spirited. She is quick to lend a helping hand to anyone in need and is a close friend to many. Stacy is a natural mother, very nurturing and supportive of not only our daughter but of all children.

Family

Stacy grew up in northern Ohio and is the middle child between her older sister and younger brother. Stacy's parents and siblings live nearby. We have a terrific relationship with them, and they are a big part of our everyday lives. They couldn't be more excited about a new addition into our family.

Education

Stacy went to Catholic schools throughout her education and later attended The Ohio State University where she earned a degree in Elementary Education and her Master's degree in Special Education. She teaches fourth grade in a multi-cultural classroom and loves watching her students grow and learn. Every day she comes home with a cute or funny story to share about "her kids" at school.

Interests

Her interests include cooking, reading, exercise, music, and travel. Stacy and Maribel are always cooking fun and healthy meals often with a Latin flair. Reading is an activity that Maribel enjoys as well. On summer days they put down a blanket under a tree and spend hours reading, laughing and talking about books. Exercise is important to her; she loves yoga, hiking, and swimming. Stacy studied Spanish in Mexico and Costa Rica and has traveled to Spain, Australia, and Alaska. However, her favorite times are ones spent with Maribel and me doing the most ordinary of things. She has so much love and affection to give to another child, and would be honored to be the adoptive mother of your child.

Favorites... Javier

Movie

Desperado

Book

The Alchemist

Sport

Golf, Basketball

Food

Plantain, Bananas

Music

Spanish, Rock

Activity

Playing guitar, Travel

Place

Manati (Puerto Rico)

Passions

Art, Architecture

Favorites... Stacy

Movie

Elf, School of Rock

Book

The Alchemist

Sport

Volleyball

Food

Pizza, Blueberries

Music

Spanish, Country

Activity

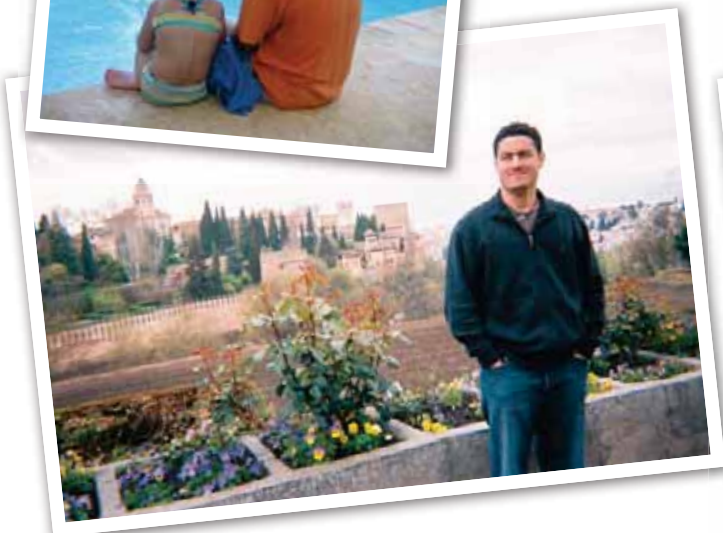
Travel, Scuba, Hiking

Place

Cozumel (Mexico)

Passions

Family, Teaching



Spain

Gibraltar



About Maribel...

Our daughter is a bright ray of sunshine! She has many interests such as telling stories; dancing tap and ballet; swimming; ice skating; and creating anything with her hands. Arts and crafts would be a favorite activity but she equally loves nature and exploring the outdoors. Maribel is a very responsible young lady who is nurturing to others and expressive in her thoughts and words. On many occasions, Maribel has expressed an interest in becoming a big sister. We think she would take her job very seriously as she is a thoughtful, outgoing, and caring individual!



Maribel with her Cousins at her Abuelos' Casa

Our thoughts on adopting a child...

Although we have a biological daughter, we have several reasons for wanting to adopt a child as well. Our wish has always been to have two or three children. We have several friends who were either adopted or are adoptive parents, so we have witnessed the love and joy that adoption brings. Please be assured that we have an abundance of love in our hearts for each of our children whether they are adopted or biological. Further, we would love for Maribel to have a little brother or sister. Since we both grew up with siblings, we know how important they are, and continue to be, in our lives.



Dad, Brother, Sister & Javier



Dad, Mom, Stacy, Javier, & Sister

Maribel's thoughts on adopting a sibling...

When preparing Maribel to meet our social worker, the following scene occurred:

Stacy: Today you are going to meet a lady who is going to help us find you a little brother or sister. Her name is Kim, and she just wants to talk to you for a little bit.

Maribel: OK. But can I tell her WHY I want a little brother or sister?

Stacy: Sure you can!

Maribel: But Mooommmmy!!

Stacy: Yes?

Maribel: Can I tell YOU why I want a little brother or sister?

Stacy: Of course you can! Why do you want a little brother or sister?

Maribel: Because I want a friend who never leaves.



A Dreaming Maribel

Our home and community...

We recently settled into a four-bedroom home in a safe community that has excellent schools. Our house sits on a 1-acre piece of land that is filled with mature trees, flower gardens, and many nooks and crannies that have yet to be discovered by us and our curious daughter, who could use a side-kick in her explorations! In walking distance is a quaint downtown that holds the library, the elementary school, a candy store, a cupcake bakery, coffee shops and restaurants. Our home is also close to hiking trails that lead to a beautiful waterfall or a river in which people are able to fish. In the winter, our yard is a sledding hill and there is an ice skating rink nearby. Activities for fun and exploration are endless here, and we can't wait to enjoy it with another little soul.



Our Home

Our culture and religion...

Our hispanic culture and Spanish language makes up the core of our family. We hope to raise our children to be bilingual as it is necessary to communicate with our extended family. Our Latino heritage is a source of pride in our family, and we will do everything we can to teach your child about his or her heritage. We also cherish our Catholic faith and attend church on a regular basis. It is our source of faith and community.



Cousin's Birthday



**Stacy, Maribel,
& Baby Cousin**



Maribel's Baptism

Our promises to your child...

- a nurturing, loving environment in which to grow
- an abundance of giggles, hugs and kisses
- a strong Catholic upbringing
- his or her needs being met before our own
- lots of support to obtain an excellent education through college
- a warm and caring extended family and support system
- a variety of positive, successful role-models from which to learn
- the opportunity to become bilingual in Spanish and English
- an appreciation of nature and all human beings in the world
- opportunities for travel and exposure to different cultures
- financial stability now and in his or her future

Thank you for learning about us and considering our family for your child. We would be honored and humbled if you chose us to be your child's adoptive parents. Please know that if given the opportunity, we will keep you updated with pictures and news about your child as he or she grows for as long as you wish. If you would like to speak with us, we would be overjoyed. Please call The Adoption Alliance at 1 (800) 626-4324.

Respectfully yours,
Javier & Stacy

