

# *Gerri, Rick and excited big brother to be, Nicholas*

*Welcome to our  
Adoption Profile*



*Contact information:*

*Adoption Alliance can be  
reached toll free at*

*1-800-626-4324.*

Hi, we are Gerri and Rick! We welcome you and thank you for taking time to learn about our family. We value you and the decision that you are making. It means a lot to us that you are considering us as potential parents and family for your precious child(ren). We are a happily married Cuban / Italian family hoping to expand our family through adoption. We are proud parents of our son, Nicholas and cannot wait to welcome our second child. We pray that you will help to answer those prayers. We want this experience to be a positive one both for you and for us. We pray for you and your family. May God bless and protect you always.

### **Our story ...**

We met on a blind date through a mutual friend. From the start we both felt very comfortable with each other and talked about everything under the sun. We had a lot in common and as they say "the rest was history." A few months later, Rick flew to my parents home to properly ask my dad in Spanish for permission to marry me. Rick is traditional and wanted to show respect to my parents. This was especially touching because Rick didn't speak any Spanish! He wrote what he wanted to say and had a friend translate it.

We were married in 2003 and our wedding day was incredible and memorable. We had a small intimate wedding. We were married during a huge east coast black-out so there was no power anywhere! We were married in a small church lit by sunlight and had a beautiful reception by candlelight. It was a perfect evening.

After we were married, we were eager to start our family. It did not happen easily for us. After trying on our own, we sought the advice from an infertility doctor and we decided to move forward with infertility treatments. In 2005 we welcomed our son, Nicholas and we were beaming with delight.

Knowing we wanted another child, we decided to try for another child as soon as we could. So, when Nicholas turned six months we underwent several infertility treatments in hopes to become pregnant again, which didn't work. Throughout the treatments, we still enjoyed our family and didn't let the disappointments interfere. We decided to take a break and enjoy being a family. As time passed, our feelings of adding another child to our family only grew stronger. After much thought, we decided to take the path of adoption to welcome our second child. We both grew up with a sibling and realize the importance of having a brother or a sister. We are ready to expand our family and offer your child a home where they will be loved, cared for and kept safe. We have so much love to give and are excited to expand our family and give your child a big brother and an encouraging home to grow up in.

two hearts ♥ endless love ♥ defining moments ♥ diagnosis love ♥ happiness  
heaven sent ♥ i love you ♥ sealed with a kiss ♥  
this is love ♥ hold on ♥ you ♥ all my heart ♥ passion  
love is in the air ♥ making memories of us ♥ love one another ♥ meant to  
love of all ♥ two peas in a pod ♥ you complete me ♥ we belong together  
sealed with ♥ his ♥ love ♥ heart ♥ kiss ♥ fall in love ♥



***Keeping in touch***

*We pray that your decisions will bring you happiness and peace of mind. Your child will know the sacrifice that you have made in order to provide the best life possible for him or her. Your child will not only know and feel the love from us, but also from you. We very much would like to keep contact through letters and photos, if you feel comfortable with it. We truly believe that a child cannot have too many people in their life loving them.*



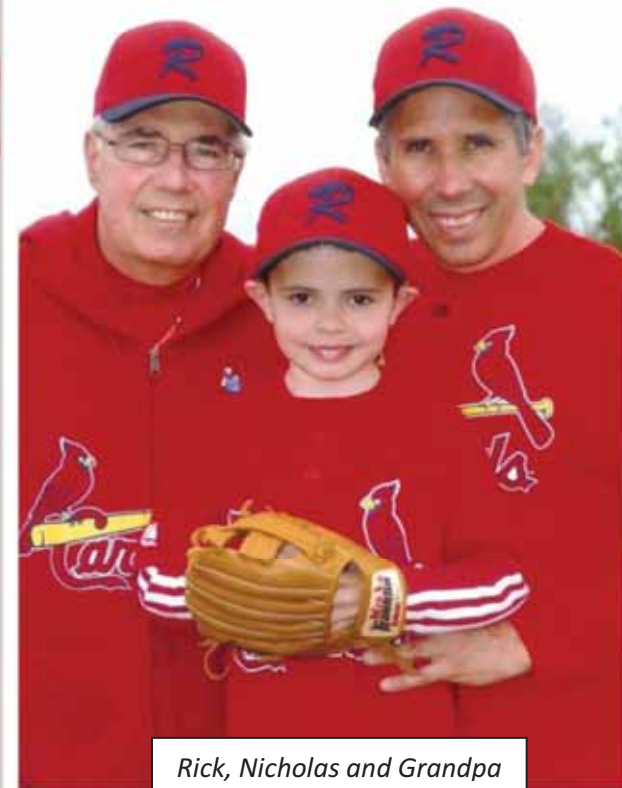
### **About Rick**

*I grew up with parents and my older sister. I had a great childhood. One of my fondest childhood memories was running around with my sister and my dog Zep in our backyard. After attending catholic high school, I went to college and graduate school to pursue a teaching career in physical education. I began working with students who were disabled and currently I am the Physical Education teacher for grades K-6<sup>th</sup>. Being a teacher allows me a fantastic work schedule. I am off the entire summer, a few weeks during the school year, as well as all the major holidays.*

*I have always wanted a family. I think that it's important that my role as a father is an active one. This is my main purpose, to be a positive role model and influence on my child's life. I make sure that I am able to provide my family with what they need. I am happy that I was able to financially support my family so that Gerri could stay home with Nicholas when he was a baby. In the future, we have planned for Gerri to stay home with the new baby. My education and teaching experience have shown me how to relate to children and be patient with their many needs. It's important to listen to them, to show them that you care and to spend time with them. It is important to me that my children know that I value what they say and do.*



*Rick & Nicholas canoeing*



*Rick, Nicholas and Grandpa*



### **About Gerri**

*I grew up with my brother and parents who came to this country from Cuba. My neighborhood was a Hispanic one. The building where I grew up was filled with family, extended family and friends. Everyone treated each other like family. I attended catholic school and studied classical piano. I attended a city university for a degree in Psychology. I worked as a bilingual teacher's assistant in a school for children with disabilities for several years before deciding to become an occupational therapist. I attended graduate school for Occupational Therapy. I currently work with children from 3 months of age to 21 years of age with various disabilities. I truly love working with kids, and helping them to achieve their goals.*

*When Nicholas arrived, I put my career on the back burner to become a full time stay at home mother. I enjoyed every minute of it and feel blessed to be able to stay at home with him. When Nicholas started school, I returned back to work at our local school. It's cool that Nick attends school where I work. Because we both work in the school system we all share the same work schedule, days off and vacations. Our schedules are ideal for raising a family.*

*I plan on becoming a stay-at-home mom again for our new baby. I believe it is important for a child to be given every opportunity to be nurtured and learn from their environment. Because of my experiences with children, I bring in a lot of my education in raising my child to be the best that they can be.*



LOVE

## Nicholas

Nicholas is 6 ½ years old. He is very funny, good natured and makes friends easily. He is always willing to help someone out, whether it's a family member, a teacher, a friend, or an animal. He is very musical, enjoys playing piano and writing songs. He is active and likes playing sports, especially baseball, basketball and karate. He enjoys being coached by his dad and grandfather in baseball. Nick is currently a blue belt in karate. He loves being outside either at the park or just going for a walk with Grandma and Grandpa. He is sweet, kind and always trying to solve a situation just like a super hero. Nicholas is an amazing boy and will be an equally amazing big brother. He is very excited to become a big brother and often talks about the new baby; wondering if it will be a brother or a sister and when he or she will arrive. Nicholas has already helped us to pick out baby names. He can't wait to help with feedings and read to the baby.



My Baby,  
it will be fun  
I cant wait for  
it to happ!

Nick's picture about the new baby



Visiting with our pal Scooby-Doo



Fishing



Nick and daddy explore



Nick at the zoo



Family fun ☺



Hanging out with super heroes



Our Karate kid



Ready to ride

Nick the scientist



Grandparents are ready welcome a new grandbaby.



Block party fun



### **Where we live**

*Our home is truly "lived-in," warm and inviting. We have a small garden in front that is filled with flowers from spring to fall. It is very relaxing to sit on the front porch and read a good book. The first floor of our house has a playroom, living/dining room, kitchen and back bedroom with bathroom. The second floor has another bathroom, Nicholas' room, the baby's room and our bedroom. We have three sweet dogs named; Scooby-Doo, Scrappy- Doo and Bella. We are blessed to live in the same neighborhood as our parents and siblings. This allows for many family get together. We have a nice backyard and there are many children on our block. Where we live we get to experience all four seasons and we enjoy all the special things each new season brings.*

*Our furry family members*



*Home Sweet Home*



*Snowman time*



*Halloween in our neighborhood*



*Surfs up*



# HUGS

## **Grandparents and extended family**

*Our extended family is a very loving and active one. Our extended family consists of the two grandmothers, a grandfather, and an aunt. Gerri's brother and his family live in Florida, but we speak to them often. They are all excited to welcome our newest family member. Since we live in the same town, we see each other regularly. We feel that our everyday life with our family creates wonderful memories for our future.*

## **Activities that we enjoy doing together**

*We enjoy going to museums, the library, and attending various musical functions. As a family we also like taking nature walks with our dogs, going to the beach, cooking, and gardening.*

*We like taking family vacations and exploring new things together.*

*Celebrating grandparents' day*



*Nick and Aunt Donna*



*Gerri and her mom*



*Fun at the fall festival  
with Aunt Donna and  
Grandma*

*Rick and his dad*



# KISSES

### ***Our promise***

*Our promise to our new child is to provide a place where he or she will live and will grow up to be a happy and moral person. Your child will know that their opinions and decisions are valued. Your child will be raised in a loving and healthy home, free of argument, where we talk things out, help each other and respect each other. Your child will know that your decisions were made carefully and with lots of love. Your child will be encouraged to reach for the stars. We will be completely devoted to your child's care and well-being.*

### ***Our thanks***

*Although it doesn't seem adequate, we want to thank you for giving us the opportunity to share our family with you. We want to thank you for allowing us to show you how much love there is in our home, for each other, for our son, for your child and for you.*

### ***How to reach us***

*We welcome any chance to talk with you and get to know one another. If you would like to speak with us, or have questions about us or adoption, a helpful, knowledgeable member of "The Adoption Alliance" can assist you. You can reach them toll free by calling **1-800-626-4324**.*

*With Love and prayers,*

*Gerri & Rick*

### **A Few Family Favorites**

	<b>Rick</b>	<b>Gerri</b>	<b>Nicholas</b>
Movie	Braveheart, Rocky 1, 2,3,4 (not 5 or 6)	The Fifth Element, The Princess Bride,	Any Scooby-Doo Movie
Holiday	Christmas Eve Traditions	Christmas Decorating	Christmas Toys and family
Dessert	Pecan pie	Cheesecake, pound cake.	Vanilla fudge and Oreo cookie ice-cream
Vacation spot	The Beach- we live only 2 blocks from beach ☺	Beach anything, a warm spot!	Summer vacation on the beach

