

*A Note of Thanks*  
S h e r r i + D e r r i c k



Exploring Sydney, Australia

Thank you for taking the time to explore our lookbook! We are thrilled to be expanding our family. Our hearts are filled with joy to know that we have an opportunity to grow together as a family.



# O u r S t o r y

We knew we were destined to be parents prior to meeting each other. We were both active godparents in the lives of our 4 godchildren and eager to expand our family. Sherri has nurtured children all of her life, and has been an elementary school educator for over 25 years. She loves supporting students, so they can grow academically and social-emotionally. Derrick has 4 young nieces, nephews and godchildren who he nurtured. We discussed trying to have one child or adopting prior to getting married. After getting married on May 25, 2024, we mapped out our plan, which involved starting to expand our family. We tried to conceive naturally however, our efforts to conceive were unsuccessful. We agreed to start our adoption journey knowing we had the support of our family and friends. We have a great support system and stable environment. With your blessing, we will provide unconditional love.

**Surprise proposal in Paris, France.**





S h e r r i +  
D e r r i c k  
*Our Story*

Over 5 years ago, we met at a mutual friend's Super Bowl party. We began to date and truly enjoyed each other's company.

3 years later we were engaged, then married on May 25, 2024.

We know life is precious and should be enjoyed with loved ones. As a couple, we faced difficult times and have grown stronger together. My mom died in 2022 of cancer. During her battle with cancer, she moved in with me. Together, Derrick and I took care of mom. Prior to her passing, she and I discussed motherhood and adoption. I know she is watching over us and excited about our blessing of becoming parents soon.

Blue Mountains,  
Australia



Christmas time  
in New York City



Sailing  
In the Canary Islands





# Meet Sherri

I followed in my mom's footsteps and became an educator. My passion for teaching began in high school where I enjoyed volunteering at day care centers, public schools, and local museums. I enjoyed working with children. Next, I pursued a career in elementary education.

I am an ardent museum visitor, frequently visiting museums to learn. I enjoy the arts. I frequent the Kennedy Center for dance performances, plays and live orchestral music. To further enrich my life and experiences, I love to travel at least once or twice each year. I travel in the United States and abroad. My favorite trips were to Brazil, Italy, Morocco, Australia, Iceland, Ireland, France, London, Spain, Greece, Bali, and Thailand.

My husband and I both love to travel and experience other cultures.

## fun facts

- I love traveling the world
- I enjoy participating in 5k and 10k races
- Love Dancing- Danced with Michael Jackson, when I was 12 years old, at his concert
- Enjoy time with family and friends
- Cookie dough ice cream & lemon cake:)





# Meet Derrick

I love to laugh and making others laugh. Learning new things and creating new experiences drive my passion for travel. I've been blessed to visit and learn about different cultures and traditions in various countries. Some of my favorites are Tanzania, Morocco, South Africa, Italy, France and Australia...and I'm looking forward to exploring Asia with our new family.

My childhood was not perfect, yet I'm grateful because it helps me appreciate what many take for granted. And that is due, in large part, to having a close-knit family that's always been supportive of me...and have embraced Sherri with open arms.

Professionally, I've spent over 25 years in the IT field. As hobbies, I enjoy playing pool, golfing, and bowling. I also enjoy watching sports, nature documentaries and real estate shows. Although, I do fall off my fitness routine sometimes, I do prioritize my health. Sherri and I each have our own favorite activities - Running for Sherri and Cycling for me - but we also love working together.

## fun facts

- I enjoy learning to cook new dishes.
- I've hiked to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro.
- In college, I "dabbled" with standup comedy.
- I love fruit sorbet & Momma's Carrot Cake.



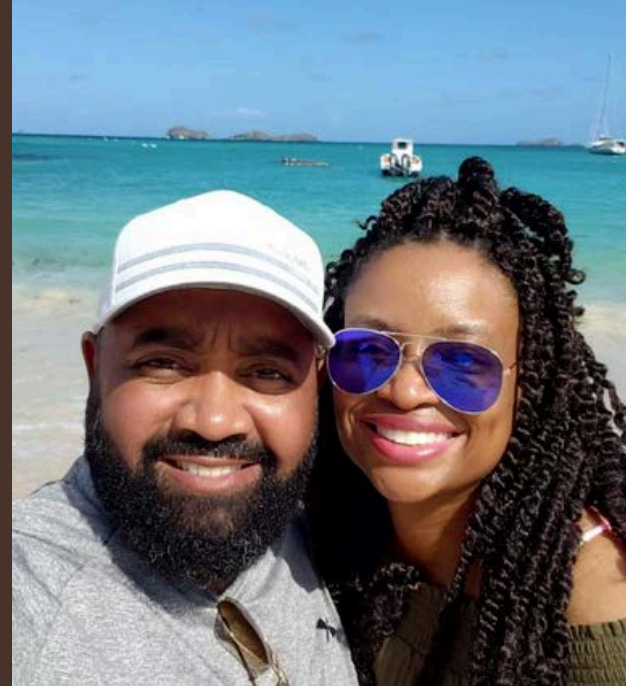


*What I love about...*

## Sherri

Before we met, I prayed for someone loving and nurturing with a teacher's spirit...and slightly taller than me in case we were blessed to have children.

(Seriously) So when we met, her slight height-advantage was obvious. But when she told me she was a teacher, I thought, "This has to be Fate." Soon after, her loving and supportive nature was evident. She cheers me on during pool games at the pool hall, and as I reach personal milestones toward my life goals. Her energy is infectious! And her little dimples are cute too... :-)



*What I love about...*

## Derrick

I love my husband because he loves me unconditionally. Derrick is thoughtful, caring, attentive to my needs, funny, supportive, and very family orientated. I appreciate that Derrick prioritizes family and continuously is my rock.





# The Stevensons

# More About Us



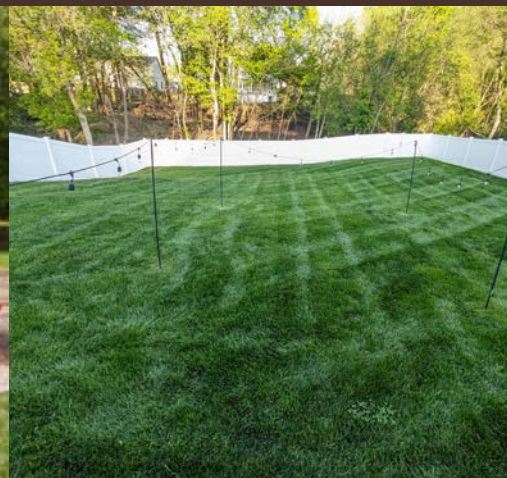




# *The Stevensons*

## *Our Home & Neighborhood*

Our neighborhood is Sherri's childhood community surrounded by beautiful tall trees, walking trails, tennis courts and playgrounds. We love our community and our neighbors are always very welcoming, friendly and look after one another. Our home is very comfortable and spacious. In our basement, we have a theatre room to watch movies. At home, we have a fenced backyard with beautiful large trees. The backyard is very relaxing and perfect for large family gatherings.







# *Our Family & Friends*

We are incredibly fortunate to have a strong network of family and friends who offer unwavering support. My mom always reminded me that friends can be just as important as family and I truly believe that. Raising a child takes a village and I'm grateful to have such a loving and supportive team to provide guidance needed as we step into parenthood. We are excited and ready for this long-awaited blessing to join our lives.





*Meet*  
***Sherri's Family***

My family is a blessing! They have been supportive during difficult times. They were a source of strength when I lost my mother to cancer. She was my rock and she was an advocate for us to adopt. Our family constantly offers us comfort during tough times and celebrating together during moments of joy. The bond within my family encourages selflessness, teaches important values, and fosters a sense of belonging.







## Meet *Derrick's Family*

Family is the foundation of support, love, and understanding. It's not just about blood relations, but about the people who truly care for you and make you feel safe, no matter the circumstances. I enjoy our family gatherings, where everyone comes together. Even though, if we are far apart there is always laughter, shared stories, and a sense of belonging.







# Thank You

We wanted to take a moment to truly thank you for taking the time to read our profile book. We understand that this is an incredibly important and deeply personal journey. We are honored that you have spent your time learning about our family and our lives.

We hope the pages provided you with a glimpse of who we are, our values, and the love we have to offer. This process means so much to us, and we're so grateful for your thoughtfulness as you consider the future. Thank you again for your time, your courage, and your heart. We wish you peace and strength to navigate your decision.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Shirley & David



# Our Beliefs

“Being a family means you are a part of something very wonderful. It means you will love and be loved for the rest of your life.”

– Lisa Weed





