
Abby & Josh

HI THERE! WE'RE ABBY AND JOSH FROM ILLINOIS



We're so grateful you're taking a moment to read our story. Thank you for considering us as part of this meaningful journey.



As we share a peek into our lives and the home we've built together, please know that we have deep respect for you and the love you have for your child. We can only imagine the many emotions you may be carrying right now, and regardless of where your path leads, we hope you and your baby feel supported, cared for, and surrounded by love.

## OUR NEXT JOURNEY

**We've spent the last twelve years building a life rooted in friendship, laughter, family, and the simple joys of everyday life. We're excited to grow our family through adoption and would be honored to welcome a child into a home filled with love, curiosity, encouragement, and plenty of fun along the way.**



*With warmth and gratitude*

Abby & Josh

# Our Story



Graduating from college

We met in our freshman engineering courses and started out as friends, spending time in study groups, grabbing meals at the student union, and watching "Legally Blonde" on repeat. Over time, that friendship grew into something more, and by senior year we were engaged. Josh proposed the only way he knew how—enlisting the help of his worship band to serenade Abby with Ed Sheeran's "Thinking Out Loud."





Enjoying Barcelona's colors



Relaxing in Cancun



Taking in the sights of Paris

LOOKING AHEAD

We love going on adventures, and we're most excited for this adventure ahead as a family of three!



# Life Together



Grilling and reading in our backyard

Most weeknights now are filled with the simple comforts of life—curling up on the couch with our dogs, watching a good show, and doing Abby's crossword puzzle. Josh enjoys cooking dinner, whether it's stir-fry, tacos, or something on the grill, while Abby is more qualified for eating and washing dishes afterwards.

On Fridays, we step away from the week with a dinner date before spending our weekends with family and friends, running errands, and gathering for bi-weekly Sunday dinner and Bible study with our church small group.



Going to the movies for Josh's birthday

## WE CAN'T WAIT

**Our lives will only grow richer when we can experience them with a child—from the little moments, like games and park swings, to the big moments like travel and adventure.**
**We feel ready and excited to share our home, our love, and our lives with a child.**



Hiking to gorgeous views




Getting in the spirit for our
Taylor Swift Eras party




Enjoying a spring bike ride together



ALL ABOUT

# Abby

**I'm ready for the beautiful, imperfect, everyday adventure of motherhood.**

My story starts in Illinois with my family and my best friend who lived across the street. When people describe me today, I can trace so many of those qualities back to my family and childhood—my friendliness, dry sense of humor, empathy, organization, and love of dancing.

Day to day, you'll usually find me sewing, dancing (in the studio or in the kitchen), running, walking our dogs, or soaking up some sunshine and fresh air. I enjoy connecting with people, which is one of the reasons I was drawn to a career in public policy and what makes it easy to strike up conversations with friends and strangers alike.

**One of the things I'm most looking forward to about becoming a parent is experiencing life through our child's eyes. I can't wait to discover who they are and support their unique personality, passions, interests, and view of the world.**



Sharing breakfast and cuddles



Reading our niece to sleep



Exploring a cafe in Sweden

JOSH SAYS

"Abby has a way of making anyone feel seen and understood. Her courage and resiliency are unmatched, and she channels that into others. I can picture her at the dinner table with our child years from now, helping them feel safe no matter what they're going through."



Practicing skills Abby learned on Project Runway



Dancing in an adult ballet recital




Inspecting a project that Abby designed



ALL ABOUT

# Josh

**I can't wait to discover the world with a child!**

I grew up in Southern California in a close-knit extended family. As an only child, my cousins were like siblings to me, and favorite memories are from weekends at my grandparents' house—swimming in the pool, playing outside, and building box forts that took over the whole living room. Family road trips across the country sparked my love of travel and exploring new places. Since then, I've lived in several states, each shaping me in its own way. I can't wait to share that curiosity and sense of adventure with our child.

I'm naturally structured and detail-oriented, which led me to a career as a traffic engineer. I enjoy solving problems that help make roads safer, and that sense of purpose carries into my everyday life.

**Outside of work, I enjoy building LEGO displays, playing instruments, and serving in our church's worship band. I look forward to encouraging creativity, imagination, and play as our child grows.**



Building a Lego city



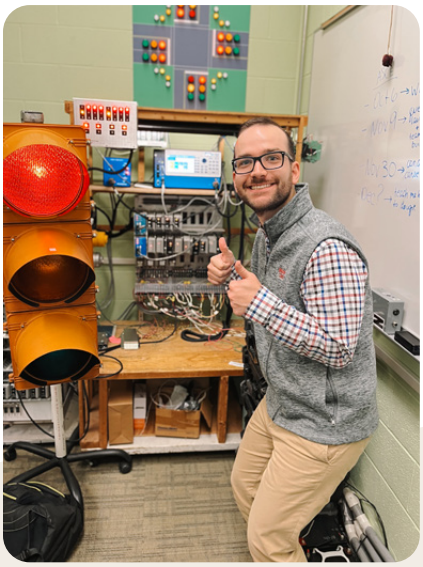
Hiking to fjord views in Norway



Celebrating 4th of July with our nieces

ABBY SAYS

"Watching Josh play with our nieces, nephew, and friends' kids is the epitome of joy. He brings endless patience, investment in their interests, and creativity to every interaction, and I know he'll cherish that same special bond with our child."



Nerding out with traffic signals



Spain blew me away



Playing the guitar at church





# Quick Facts

**Career**
Government
Transportation Advisor

**Song on Repeat**
Life of a Showgirl
by Taylor Swift

**Loves**
At-home dance parties, our church community, my job

**Favorite Vacation**
Beaches, tubing, and ziplining in Costa Rica

**Known For**
My dancing and being organized

**Career**
Traffic
Engineer

**Song on Repeat**
Somebody Like You
by Keith Urban

**Loves**
Tacos, soccer, and Lego

**Favorite Vacation**
I loved Sweden and Norway

**Known For**
Being dependable and having a strong musical ear

**We live in a suburb of Chicago that feels like it was made for families—with great schools, neighborhood parks, and plenty of kids out playing.** We can't wait to grab ice cream on the riverwalk with a little one or walk together to the elementary school nearby. We already spend plenty of time at the park across the street, playing on the playground and hosting rousing kickball games with our friends' kids and our nieces and nephews.



Savoring a delicious meal at our local taco fest



# Our Home



Renovating the nursery



Relaxing with a good book

We moved to Illinois two years ago after leaving the DC area to be closer to Abby's family, and it quickly felt like home. Abby and Trevor love spending time in the backyard and relaxing on the front porch, and we're already picturing swing sets, kiddie pools, and afternoons outside together. Josh has had a blast decorating the nursery with a mountain and camping theme and is secretly hoping for a future sidekick to help expand his LEGO city in the basement.

## WE'VE GOT ROOM TO GROW

**We feel like our home reflects our personalities—from the cozy family room to our spunky and nerdy offices. We look forward to watching our home change over the years as we welcome a child's personality, culture, and interests into our family.**



Sharing Thanksgiving dinner with family

# OUR PETS



## Nora



## Trevor



We have two adorable dogs. Nora is an 11-year-old beagle mix who loves people almost as much as she loves finding food scraps. Trevor, our 4-year-old mixed breed, is adorable in a funny-looking way. He likes to announce himself when someone new arrives, but he's quickly won over by anyone willing to throw a toy for him. They're a big part of our daily routines, whether it's neighborhood walks, relaxing in the backyard, or curling up with us on the couch. We have a feeling they'll be especially happy when those walks include a stroller and there's an extra little person around for snuggles.



Biking in Sweden's with Abby's parents



Hiking in Colorado with Abby's family



Sharing time with Josh's parents



Visiting Disneyland with Josh's dad



Celebrating Christmas with Abby's family



Clogging at Abby's sister's wedding

# Our Family and Friends

After several years in the DC area forging friendships and building our careers, we moved back to Illinois two years ago to be closer to Abby's family. Since then, we've shared both the big occasions and small moments together—watching our niece's school play, having Abby's mom stop by to walk the dogs, or spending a weekend with Abby's sister and her family.

Josh's family is more spread out but no less close. Growing up, his cousins felt more like siblings, and that shaped how he thinks about family. We treasure any chance to visit Josh's parents and grandma in California, take trips to Colorado together, or have them join us for house projects in Illinois. We also happily partake in the many permutations of cousin Instagram chats to share updates and memes.

We are grateful for the close friendships that are an important part of our lives. Whether we're hiking with college friends, enjoying cookouts with friends from church and their kiddos, or traveling across the country to visit childhood friends, we're thankful for the support, laughter, and community they bring us. **We can't wait for our child to grow up knowing they have grandparents to spoil them, cousins to play with, and people who will always cheer them on.**



Cheering on niece Lynnea at her recital



Laughing with niece Eleanor



Competing in a cookie tasting with Abby's family



Summiting a 14,000-foot peak with friends



Finishing a 10k with friends



Carving pumpkins with our Bible study



Being goofy with kids from our church's Bible study



# On Adoption

As first-time parents, we are grateful to have so many examples of loving parents around us – from our parents and Abby's siblings to our friends, church community, and colleagues. They've helped shape the parents we hope to be: provide endless love and support, foster a stable and nurturing environment, and help the child embrace their own version of confidence and independence.

**Part of that philosophy includes openness toward adoption.** We want our home to be a place where adoption and our child's story are talked about openly and often, where questions are always welcome, and where we share how deeply they are loved by you.  We hope for an open adoption and would welcome the opportunity to learn what level of openness feels right to you and your family. We would love to share regular photos and updates and create space to stay connected through phone calls or visits.

WITH GRATITUDE

# Thank you again for taking the time to read our profile.

We are thinking of and praying for you— for your comfort and peace today and in the days ahead.





If you choose us, we would be honored to welcome your child into our family and share a lifetime of love, hugs, laughter, and encouragement with them.

*With love and appreciation*

Abby & Josh