OUBOOK BOOK



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Thank you again for taking the time to read our book. Adoption has been such a blessing and precious gift in our lives. We are so excited to share our lives and love with another child.

We have enjoyed an open adoption with Jace's Birth Mom and share updates with her throughout the year. We cherish having that connection with her and her family, especially when they were able to join us for Jace's second birthday. It was incredible to see the love she had for Jace and the courage it took for her to place her child up for adoption. We are open to having another open adoption and would love to have that same, special relationship with you in the future.

We admire you for your courage in making this decision and wish you the best in your adoption journey.

Justin, Kris and Jace.

How we met ...

(Justin talking) Kris and I grew up within 3 miles of each other. She is a little older than I so I never really knew her. Then we went to a family reuion in Phoenix and on down to Yuma, where Kris was teaching school, and I sure wanted to see her. Then I found out she had flown home for Christmas. Well, we finished seeing our relatives and went back home. By the time we got home she had flown out again. After she came home in May, we had a wedding at the church and we had to serve tea and coffee together at the reception. We just hit it off. We then exchanged cell phone numbers and so on and so on. Smile Well, it finally came time for me to ask her to marry me. And can you believe she said YES!! So in October of 2000 we had a wedding. We went to Branson, MO. for our honeymoon and spent 3-4 days wandering around there on cloud nine! Life went on....

(Kris now) About 3 years after we married we started thinking about children. We spent the next years doctoring and having surgeries, and we still weren't able to get pregnant. We had talked of adopting quite a bit and hadn't reached a decision and then the Dr. told us we didn't really have a chance to get pregnant and we had our answer. We both want to have a family!

Finally, in closing, we want to thank you for looking at our profile and reading about our lives. Love, Justin & Kris

About Justin

I was born in a nice, small town in Kansas with my older brother and younger sister. In my early years, I have fond memories of working on the farm with Dad. This taught me a lot about the value of hard work and that's something I hope to pass onto my children.

In school, my favorite subjects were Science and History. Growing up, I enjoyed play sports and being active. We played a lot of baseball, basketball, and soccer, plus all kinds of other games.

When I was about 16, I began working at a ranch, helping with the cows and calves. I helped there for three winters, feeding, mending fence, and general shop work. After that, I drove a truck for five years before buying the hay business from my Dad, which is what we have been doing ever since.

About Kris

I grew up not too far from Justin with my parents, two older sisters and one younger sister. Growing up, I remember playing with the neighbor girls a lot and riding our bikes around town. Family was always really important in our household. We spent most holidays with one side or the other. On Sundays, we would gather for dinner after church at Grandpa's house.

Growing up, my sisters and I were our Dad's "Hired Hands." He moved dirt until the early 90's when he started farming. We did a lot of surveying and figuring of maps. When Dad started farming we still helped out quite a bit, planting, harvesting, raising bottle calves, or whatever else he needed help doing. Like Justin, this taught me the importance of hard work and that's something we hope to pass onto a child.

Vacation



Vacation





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2015 ... Our son, Jace, is now 4 years old. Boy,how time flies by! Jace is a happy, energetic little kid, who loves to spend time outside, digging and playing in the dirt, just like his daddy (who is a hay farmer.) He also loves to read and has memorized many of his books by heart. Jace is very excited to become a big brother and is always asking us about the adoption.

It is now 2023 & Jace is 11! He will be starting 5th grade in August...I heard him tell someone the other day that he was ready to be back to school! He is getting to be a big helper in the field for his dad, often raking hay in front of the balers.







Justin & I both come from close-knit families who mostly still live nearby. Everyone is very excited about our adoption and cannot wait to welcome another youngster in the family!

We have a total of 13 nieces and nephews, which is great because that means Jace always has a playmate in one of his cousins. It also means we have LOT'S of fun birthday celebrations throughout the year. We have a tradition that no matter how old, we always put that number of candles on the cake for the birthday boy/girl to blow out. While it's easier for the younger kids, you should have seen Grandpa blow out his 93 candles several years ago!

Our Home



We live in a charming town in rural Kansas, surrounded by cornfields and beautiful plains. Having both grown up here, we are excited to raise our family in the same community which we were raised. The best part about living here is that we know everyone and our friends and relatives are always around to lend a helping hand, whenever needed.

We live in a "Shoush"..... a house that is connected to the shop, it's about 4 miles out of town in the country. We cannot wait to create many more memories together as a family, in our home!

FAMILY TUNE











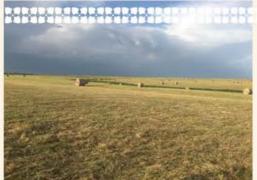














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Our church has always been a big part of our lives, and we cannot wait to share our faith with another child. We spend lots of time with others in our congregation and truly consider them to be like a second family. We attend church each Sunday, and enjoy participating in various other activities throughout the year, whether that be basket dinners, an evening of songs or Pie Night every so often.

Justin: "When I was 18, I had a new birth experience and God came into my heart, giving me peace. I was baptized into the Church of God in Christ Mennonite and ever since church has been a really important part of my life, as well as our family's life."

Kris: "Church was also always important in our family. I grew up knowing that on wednesday evenings and Sundays, we would go to church. My parents served on different committees, teaching Sunday School, and Dad was the song leader for many years."

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Hobbies

Growing up in the country has instilled in both of us a deep love for the outdoors. Justin has always enjoyed hunting and fishing. He enjoys going down to Texas each year to visit with friends and go wild hog hunting. Kris, on the other hand, loves to read books or spending time baking in the kitchen.

Together, we enjoy sitting out in our backyard with Jace by the campfire and cooking dinner. Jace especially enjoys roasting marshmallows and making s'mores - something he hopes to teach a younger brother or sister. We also have lots of fun visiting Kris' family, so that we can get in a couple games of croquet, bocce ball or corn toss!

We enjoy traveling and look forward to exploring more of the country with the children in the future. One of our favorite places to visit is Kansas City, where we like to see all the museums and the zoo. We also enjoy visiting in California. 2016 Jace was able to visit the beach, for the first time and loved digging in the sand and building sand castles!