

JEFF & NATASHA





A LIFE FILLED WITH
JOY, POSITIVITY, AND LOVE

Hello

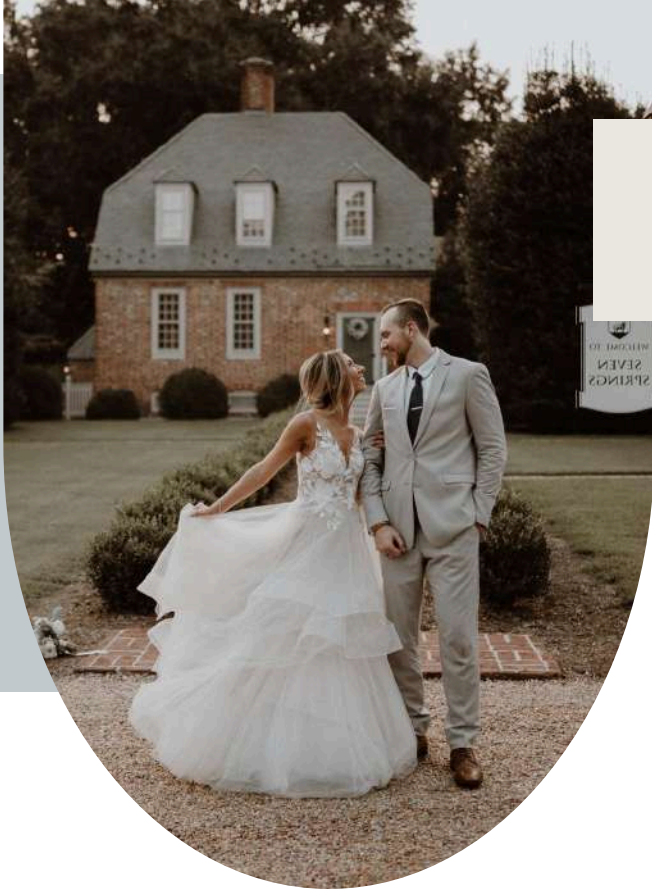
If you are reading this, the very first thing we would like you to feel is the immense amount of gratitude and respect we have for you already. For one reason or another, you have decided to read through these pages to learn a little bit more about us, our life, and our journey; and that means the world to us that you would see our hearts. Our hope and prayer is that this might be the beginning of a story that we will continue to write together.

While we cannot fully begin to imagine the strength, love, and courage it takes to be here reading something like this; we hold so much space in our hearts for you. We recognize that adoption is layered- it is beautiful and full of hope, but also born from heartbreak and loss. We promise to never overlook that truth. We will honor you always, speak of you with love, and hold a place for you within our family's story. Your child will always grow up knowing that deeply they were loved by you- and that their story began because of the incredible strength, sacrifice, and heart of their mother. This will always be deeply embedded and woven into the tapestry of our family.

To your child, we promise a life filled with warmth, secure, patient, and unconditional love. They will always know that they our greatest blessing. They will forever be in awe of the magic their mom will create for them within their daily life. They will think their dad hung the moon and stars for them. Your child will never be anything less than deeply wanted, deeply chosen, and deeply loved. They will be the piece of our hearts we have been waiting and hoping for; the light we searched for through every storm.

WITH LOVE,

Jeff & Natasha



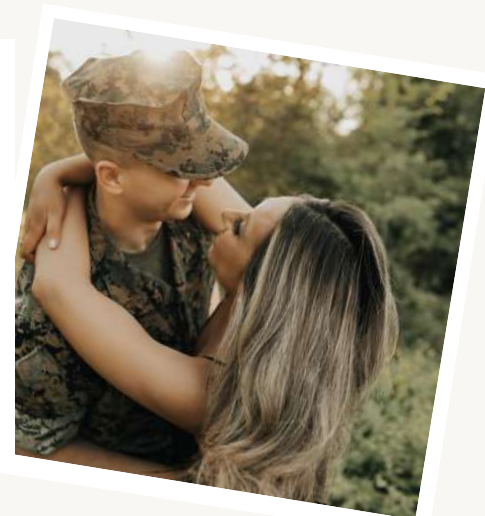
Our Story

How we met

OUR STORY HAS ALWAYS BEEN ROOTED IN SOMETHING SIMPLE AND STEADY- TRUE FRIENDSHIP.

We met at just 19 years old, completely unaware of the life that was quietly beginning to unfold in front of us. At that time, we couldn't have even dreamt of the adventures that God had in store for us. What started as a natural friendship, slowly grew into the firm foundation that we built our relationship and later marriage on. We are each other's best friends first and foremost. And for over twelve years now (through college, long distance dating, and now marriage as a military couple) we have always held onto the same things; loyalty, communication, and a deep love for one another. We genuinely love spending time together. We don't even need to be doing anything big or exciting- some of our favorite moments can be the most ordinary ones. Cooking dinner side by side on a Friday night, standing in line at Costco, or driving around with the windows down and singing along to any radio station- being together is all that matters to us. And being a military family where deployments and time apart is the norm, we have a deeper appreciation than most people do, for the time we share together.

Our relationship is strong, steady, and we have a deep connection based in respect for one another. We are friends, co listeners, and each other's biggest life cheerleader. When life is hard we don't give up, and when it is good, we don't take it for granted.





WE HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR FIVE AND A HALF YEARS. OUR RELATIONSHIP IS GROUNDED IN LOVE, CONNECTION, RESPECT, AND KNOWING WE ARE ON THE SAME TEAM. TOGETHER, WE WILL BE A TEAM IN PARENTHOOD.

A SNAPSHOT INTO *our lives*

2014

Jeff and Natasha meet during Labor Day Weekend at University. They were introduced together by mutual friends, and found out they were also next door neighbors.

2020

During a trip back home to Philadelphia one weekend in July, Jeff proposed to Natasha in front of the Philadelphia Art Museum where they went on their first date! They were overjoyed, and started planning their wedding.

2021

Jeff and Natasha get married at a historic farmhouse venue in Virginia. It was a beautiful summer night surrounded by so much love from their family and friends. All of their family, stayed on the property the entire weekend.

2024

Jeff and Natasha get new orders to California. They move into their new house on base and then immediately fall in love with living by the ocean. They take full advantage of living in Southern California, with lots of weekend trips and getaways to surrounding areas.

2026

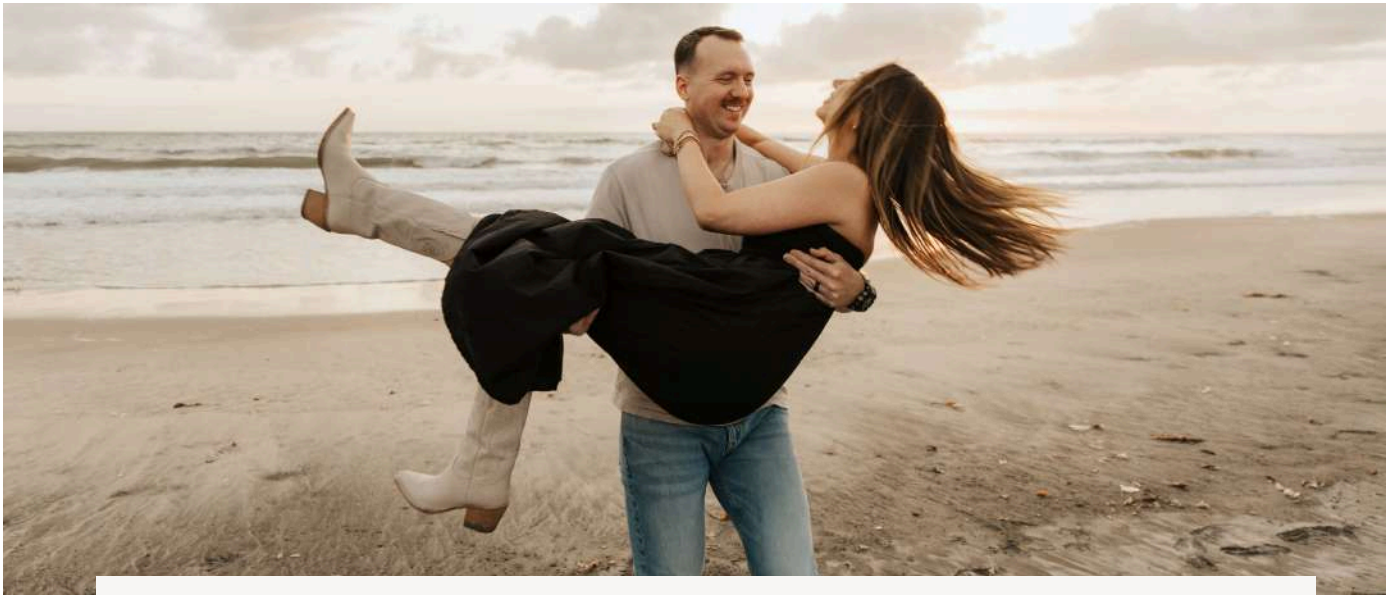
After multiple rounds of fertility procedures with different doctors, that are unsuccessful. This was the season of peace to step into the adoption journey with their whole hearts and prepare to love a birth family fully.

WE TRULY BELIEVE WHAT MAKES THIS MARRIAGE WORK IS OUR DEEP LOVE FOR EACH OTHER AND FOR THE LORD.

One of our favorite things about meeting so young, is that we have had the gift of being able to grow up side by side through our twenties and now thirties. We've walked together through the highest of highs and some of the lowest of lows. We've had easy seasons, and some really tough ones. Through all of it, one thing has always stood fast; and that is the fact that we know we were meant for each other. We truly believe that God always intended for us to find each other. And because of that, we carry so much hope for the future family we are praying for. We know that one day our story will grow with a new chapter- and that story will already be our favorite.

OUR FAMILY VALUES

AND WHAT GOUNDS US TOGETHER



quality time

We value uninterrupted, intentional quality time together. For us, that means putting the phones down, slowing everything else down, and truly being present with the person in front of us. It's something we practice daily within our marriage, but carry into our relationships with family and friends.

positivity

We know that life isn't always easy or predictable, but we do believe in the power of perspective. We believe that choosing joy, even in difficult moments, make those hard times easier to get through. We want to live our life with joy overflowing.

gratitude

Gratitude is a daily rhythm in our home, and we show this in our prayers each day. We make it a point to thank God for all of our blessings. This is what keeps us grounded, and fills our home with a sense of peace. We choose a heart of thanks in each step.

01



02



03



OUR HEART FOR ADOPTION



From the very start of our relationship, we both knew that we wanted to be parents and have a big family. On our very first date, we shared pancakes at a diner in Philly and talked about the future holiday traditions we would share with our kids, and where we wanted to raise a family. We couldn't wait to create these memories together. And somewhere during those first early dates, adoption found its place in our conversations- not as an afterthought, but something that felt written in our hearts from the start. There was a quiet peace that came over the both of us, when we realized that adoption had never left our story. It had been there from the very start, patiently waiting for us.



You matter to us...

I hope you know that you will always be honored in our home. You will forever have a seat at our table and in our hearts. Your name will only be spoken with gratitude, respect, and love. Your sacrifice will be remembered, and never forgotten. We will carry it with reverence in our home. Your selflessness will always be protected. Your heartbreak will always be spoken of with compassion and care, and never without a box of tissues at the ready. Your memory will live on in your child, and we hope to share to them all of the beautiful things that you want them know. To know you in our family will be to love you, and that is how it will always be for you. Now, and for all the years to come.



Diversity and culture

Your child's background, history, ethnicity, and heritage will always be something that is celebrated and woven into our family life. If there are traditions, customs, foods, languages or meaningful practices that are important to you, then we will embrace them with open hearts and it will be no different than our current shared customs already. We feel incredibly grateful to have and continue to live in extremely diverse communities, and will always continue to seek out spaces, relationships, and experiences that reflect and honor your child's story. We always want them to be proud and connected to their roots, and surrounded by family that celebrates each part of who they are.

MEET

Jeff

KIND-LOYAL-FUNNY



JEFF HAS A HEART OF GOLD

I have always known that my greatest honor and achievement in life would be becoming a dad. I am blessed to have been raised by an incredible role model of a dad, who I learned everything from. To me, being a dad means being the provider and protector of our family. It requires daily sacrifice, patience, and consistency. It also means leading our home with integrity, day in and day out. It's showing up for both the big moments and being there for the small every day ones. I imagine myself being there for every single game and practice, and even signing up to be the coach. Or staying up late at the dining room table helping to study the night before a big test. It means reading the Bible as a family and teaching our children what a love for Christ looks like. Showing what a strong work ethic is, and the meaning of hard work. My dad always inspired me to aim high and dream big, and I want our children to always feel like they can. And at the end of the day, I want our children to grow up knowing that they will always be supported and unconditionally loved by their mom and dad because they are.



MY CAREER

I am an Officer in the United States Marine Corps. I lead a platoon of sixty men and women, and we specialize in communication systems. Growing up, I knew I always wanted to serve and find a strong sense of purpose, pride, and camaraderie in what I do. It's been extremely rewarding being able to find not only my sense of self, but to also help my Marines achieve personal growth and accolades. My job is not always the most flexible when it comes to time, so I am fortunate for my wife, family, and our community for picking up the extra load when needed.



IN NATASHA'S WORDS

Jeff has a natural confidence about him that instantly captivates and draws people in. You immediately feel safe, steady, and grounded just by standing in his orbit. His presence is calming and warm. Jeff is loyal, patient, and thoughtful. He never seeks attention or credit, and people automatically gravitate to him because of his sense of humor and his authenticity. He is steadfast, and pragmatic in difficult situations. He's a problem solver by nature and will always be looking to how he can leave something better than how he found it. He's a natural leader, teacher, and mentor and is always looking for opportunities to grow the people around him. He's disciplined and intentional, especially in his health and fitness. He's loving, and kind, and loves long phone calls with his dad, watching the Eagles play on Sunday, any kind of sour candy, and a good wood-working project. He always means what he says, and he will always keep a promise that he makes. He's the funniest person I know, and is quick with a good punchline. He loves country music and always knows the words to any 90's/2000's country song on the radio. He's great with children, and is known as Jeffrey the Jungle Gym in our family. His faith shapes the way he leads, loves, and lives. His family is and will always be the most important thing to him- above any material possession or work achievement.



WHAT I LOVE...

Football, Baseball
& Hockey

Country music

Going on hike with
my wife & dog

Golfing with my
dad & friends

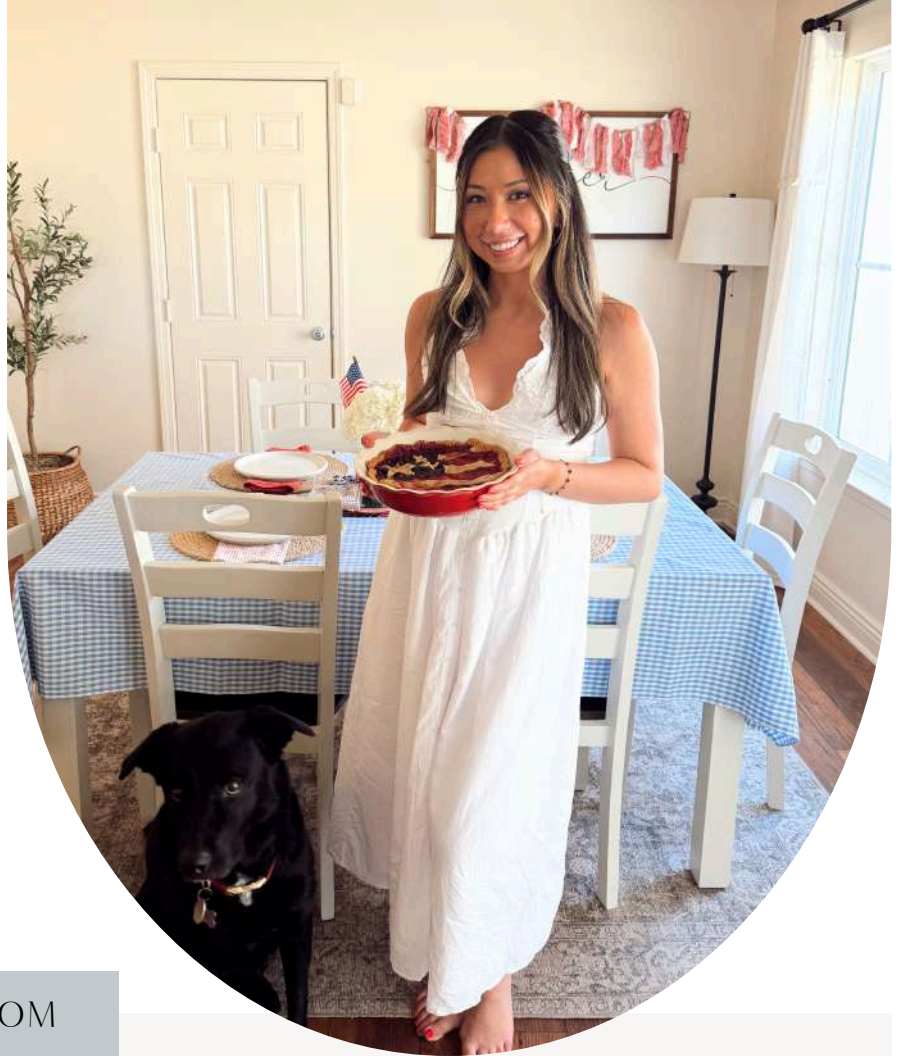
Woodworking

Reading a
great book

MEET

Natasha

BUBBLY - POSITIVE - EMPATHETIC



MY HEART AS A FUTURE MOM

My greatest wish for our future child is that they will always feel how magical their life is. I always want them to maintain their joy, and childlike wonder in life. They will forever feel the love and warmth that will fill our house. Every day is a special day, because it will be a day I will get to love, nurture, guide, and be present for our family. I hope they will always be in awe of the warm goods that we will bake in the kitchen, the pillow forts in the living room we will create, or the endless amounts of crafts and make believe out of simple every day things we will make, and all of the beautiful adventures that await them. They will be unconditionally loved, wanted, seen, and loved their entire life by me. I dream every day of filling our home with little sparks of a child. I want to see their little shoes waiting by the front door. I want to see their fingerpainting drawings covering the fridge. I want to see their bright little toys in all the little corners of the house. Their bikes and outdoor toys around the backyard, chalk drawings on the driveway. I long for the day our home is filled with all of the sights, scents, and sounds of our family.



CAREER TO STAY AT HOME MOM

I am an Account Manager for a total workforce management solutions company, specifically supporting a utility client. I manage the entire contractor population of this company. I know that when we adopt, I will be transitioning into a stay-at-home mom fully. I luckily have a partner who is extremely supportive of this decision. We have already discussed how things will change once this happens.



IN JEFF'S WORDS

When I think about Natasha, I think of her heart. She is a warm, bubbly, outgoing, caring, and kind person and she leads with it in everything she does. When she meets someone for the first time, she has this gift of making people feel like they have known her for years. She loves to make the space around her beautiful and warm and welcoming. Natasha is very intentional and has a knack for putting care into small details to bring meaning into everyday moments. She is the most loyal person I know, along with the most positive. She will always find the bright side of any situation, and teaches me every day to enjoy life by making it feel light and easy. She's a follower of Christ, and has a servant heart. Natasha is a huge animal lover and would adopt 10 more dogs if we did not live on base. She is always happy, and always laughing. She is very sentimental, and loves taking photos of everything to capture the moment.



WHAT I LOVE...

Being active

Cooking & baking

Decorating & DIY projects

A great beach day

Rescue dog lover

Traveling

What we do

for fun

FRIDAYS

Friday nights in our household look like making pizza from scratch with all of the toppings, followed by a homemade ice cream sundae bar. The kitchen is usually covered in flour by the time we are done, there are more toppings on the counter than the pizza, and there are usually several burnt attempts before the perfect pizza crust is achieved. Movie marathons are always a must, and usually will be some kind of Disney movie.

SATURDAYS

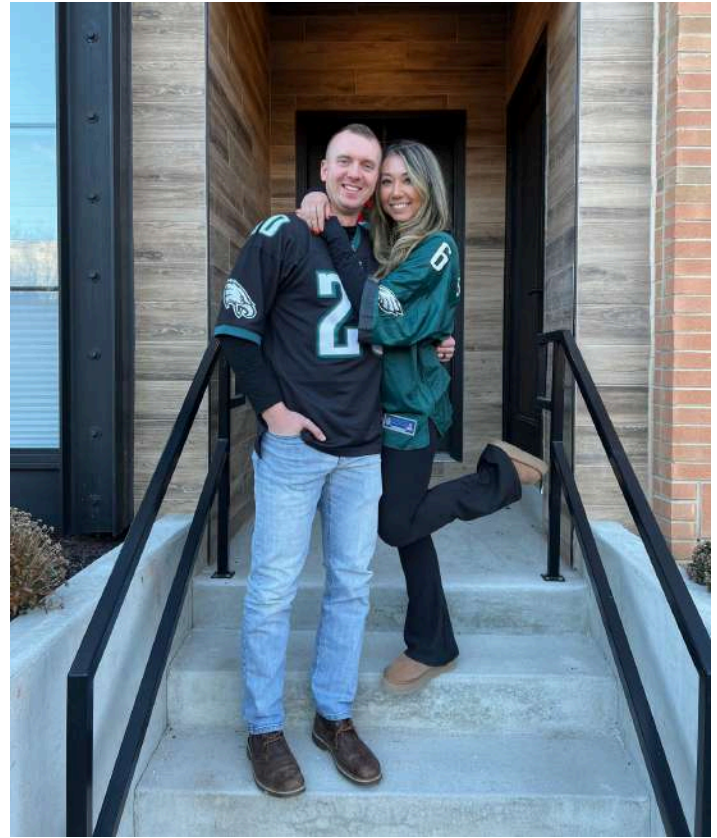
Our Saturday mornings can look very different- it can either look like a very slow Saturday filled with homemade chocolate chip waffles on the griddle, making an endless amount of coffee, watching the news on the couch and then going for a walk on the beach or neighborhood. Or it can be filled with daytrip adventures, to see the Joshua Trees in JTNP, lounging on the beach all day, waking at dawn for rope drop at Disneyland, exploring a new trail or beach town

SUNDAYS

Sundays are always church in the morning, followed by brunch at our favorite breakfast spot in Oceanside complete with a ginormous cinnamon roll, then usually back home to get the house ready for the week. Sometimes a grocery or Costco run will be had, followed by a Home Depot visit for backyard things. Some sort of staple meal will be made together, usually chili or gumbo or chicken parm.

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LONG WEEKENDS ARE ALWAYS SPENT EITHER IN PALM SPRINGS OR BIG BEAR OR DISNEYLAND! WE FEEL VERY FORTUNATE TO LIVE IN A CENTRALIZED PART OF CALIFORNIA WHERE WE ARE ABLE TO SEE THE COAST, DESERT, AND MOUNTAINS ALL IN ONE DAY. IT'S VERY TYPICAL FOR US TO PACK THE TRUCK WITH THE DOGS AND RENT AN AIRBNB FOR A WEEKEND AT ONE OF OUR FAVORITE SPOTS- IT ALLOWS US A LITTLE BREAK, QUALITY TIME TOGETHER AS A FAMILY, AND THE CHANCE TO EXPLORE A COOL NEW CITY TOGETHER.



IF WE HAVE THE HONOR OF RAISING AND LOVING YOUR CHILD

we promise these things to you...

We promise to create a home filled with so much love, laughter, and warmth. From everyday routines to all the big moments, and everything in between- their home and their family will be their safe haven and one they can always come back to, when they are grown.

Your child will always know how deeply wanted, chosen, and cherished they are; there will never be a day that does not start and end with an "I love you."

Their story and your story will always be honored in our home and carried within everything we do. Your child will grow up knowing exactly where their story started along with any culture and family history, and it will always be acknowledged with the utmost love and respect.

We promise to raise them with the strong values and faith that we share- kindness, empathy, perseverance, resilience, integrity, and a love for Jesus.

We promise to always be present and to show up for them, every single day. Your child will be raised with a gentle, consistent, patient love.

Your child will always be loved for WHO they are and WHO they will be- unconditionally.



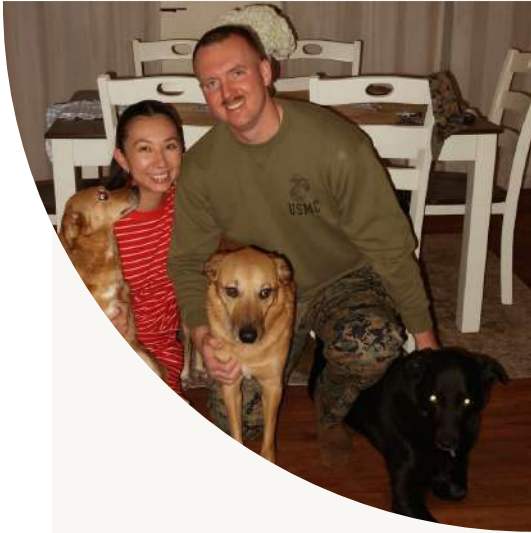
HOME SWEET HOME



A HOME FILLED
IMMENSE JOY

OUR HOME IS A LIGHT-FILLED, COZY, THAT HOLDS SO MUCH WARMTH AND PERSONALITY. FROM THE MOMENT YOU WALK THROUGH THE FRONT DOORS, IT'S THE KIND OF HOME THAT FEELS INVITING RIGHT AWAY- COMFORTABLE, LIVED-IN, AND FULL OF LIFE.

As you walk through the front doors, Jeff's military boots along with his uniform and hat hang in the hallway, small reminders of our life as a military family. The living room is centered around a big cozy sectional layered with soft blankets and colorful pillows, the kind of place you can sink into and stay awhile. There is already space carved out for toys and little moments for kid play. The kitchen is one of our favorite places- bright, open, and almost always with something homemade sitting freshly baked on the counter. There is always music playing through the house. Down the halls are three spacious bedrooms, including one we have already set aside and dreamed of as a nursery- waiting patiently for the day it's filled. Out back, a fenced-in yard wraps around a beautiful sprawling oak tree, with a pergola and outdoor seating. It's a place we already imagine children running around and playing under the shade of the tree.



OUR LAID BACK BEACH COMMUNITY IN CALIFORNIA

We live by the beach in California. We live in a vibrant, family-filled neighborhood that feels like its own little world. We have playgrounds tucked away in every corner, soccer fields, walking trails, a splash pad, and even a community swimming pool. Our neighborhood is filled with young families and you will always see kids outside riding bikes, playing games, and laughing. We also have many family-friendly amenities on base, a barn where children can take riding lessons, different schools for kids of all ages, multiple pools, a private beach, a large hospital, groceries, and restaurants. The base is constantly hosting events and activities to bring families together. We feel very lucky to be able to call this place home, and to live in a community where neighbors become friends, and friends become family! One of our favorite morning rituals is starting off our day with a walk, making our way from one end of the beach to the other. We always finish with the Pier, sometimes complete with fresh bagels and coffee on the water! We love taking our dogs with us, making it a fun family kind of morning

WHAT WE LOVE IN OUR

community

- BEACH COMMUNITY
- SPORTS FIELDS
- FAMILY EVENTS
- CLOSE KNIT
- REC CENTERS
- SPLASH PADS
- LOCAL KIDS POOLS



Our Pups

Tally is our beloved 11-year old black lab who is the sweetest most gentle soul. Cooper is our 6-year-old Modolvan Shepherd from Europe. Julia is our five-year-old tri-pawed Dachshund mix, full of energy, personality and joy.

Family

IS THE HEARTBEAT OF WHO WE ARE

We are both so thankful to be close to both of our extended families, and able to have them be a part of our daily lives. To Natasha's family, this means daily Facetime's and phone calls with her parents and siblings. Anytime we are all on the phone together, there is no shortage of belly laughs and stories. To Jeff's family, this means an annual family trip! Both of us are very lucky to see our extended family at least 3-5 times a year. Each side of the family are already praying for this child; they have seen us during our toughest seasons and know how much this means to us. Both sides of the family are already planning trips out to California to see their newest grandbaby, and have already been mailing onesies and other baby items to us.



JEFF'S FAMILY

Jeff's immediate family consists of his mom, Danean, his dad Jeff, his sister Kelsey (32) and her husband Nick and son Connor, and his sister Nicole (29) and her husband David and children Haven and Walker and a third baby on the way. Jeff's parents live in Williamsburg, Virginia and also have a large farm property out in the mountains of Virginia. Jeff's sister Kelsey and her family live in Northern Virginia. Jeff's sister Nicole and her family live in Arizona. All of his extended family are in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania- which makes family holidays quite easy with Natasha's being there as well. Jeff's uncle and his wife who adopted a daughter from Brazil and also all reside in Philadelphia. Jeff's parents (Mimi and Papi) are so excited to welcome a 5th grandbaby. Haven and Walker are also equally excited, and ask constantly when their new cousin will be here.

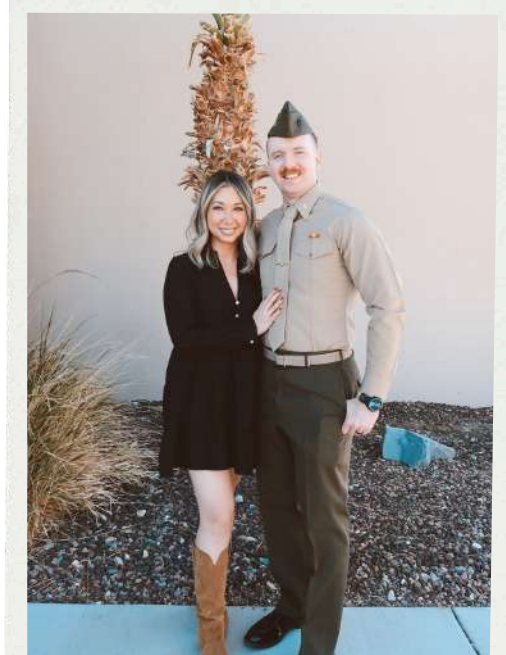
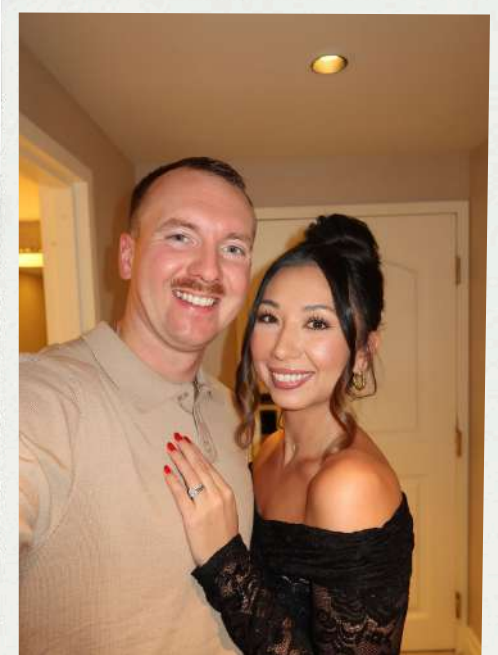
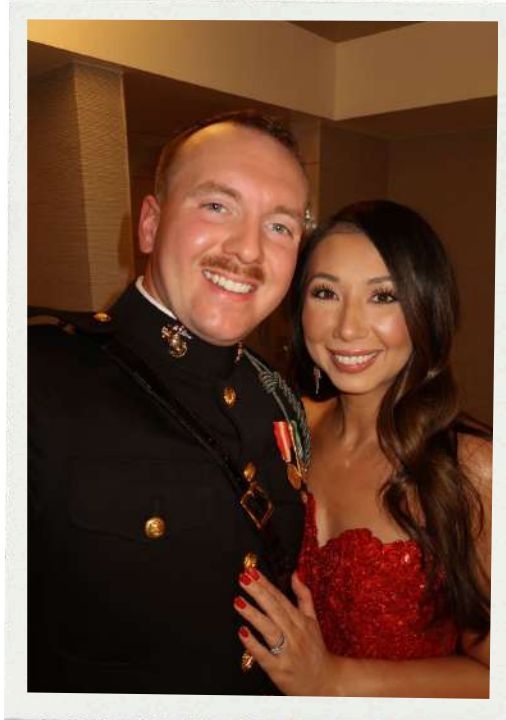
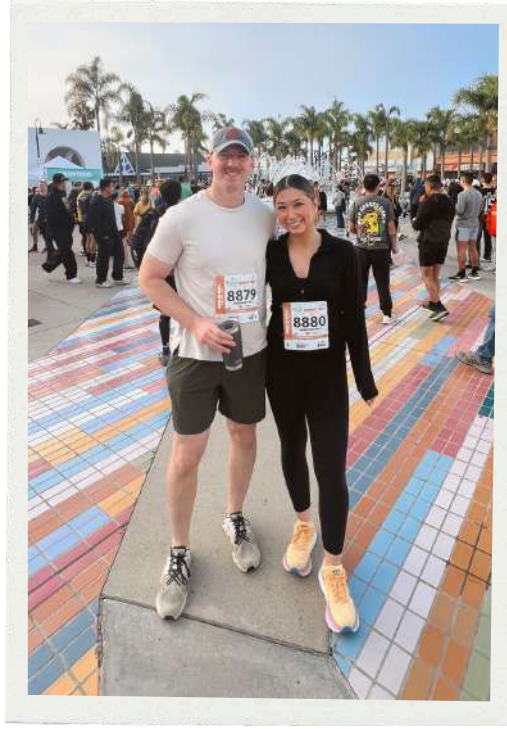
NATASHA'S FAMILY

Natasha's immediate family consists of her mom, Tania, her dad, Franck; her younger sister, Kaitlin (28); and her youngest brother, Marcus (25). Natasha's parents live in a gorgeous five story townhome right in the heart of Philadelphia. Her brother is in the process of moving to Washington D.C. Natasha's sister Kaitlin lives by herself in an apartment in Philadelphia. Natasha's grandparents on her mom's side (Bo Bo and Kung Kung, age 86) live in Hong Kong. The rest of Natasha's family on her mom's side is spread across the world in Asia. The family on Natasha's dad's side lives in France. Despite their family being so spread apart the world, Natasha's is extremely close with her immediate family and extended family and everyone talks constantly over the phone or on Facetime. Natasha's parents are already thinking of their grandparent names, and all the things they will be doing with their future grandbaby!



OUR EXTENDED FAMILY LOVES WITH THEIR WHOLE HEART AND LIVES. THEY WILL CHERISH YOUR CHILD ALONGSIDE US, AND BE THERE FOR THEM IN ALL THE LITTLE AND BIG WAYS.





TRADITIONS WE LOVE

FALL FESTIVITIES

This time of year is filled with all our favorite traditions- visiting pumpkin patches, carving pumpkins at home (Jeff is known for his impressive Minion carvings), taking trips up to Big Bear to see and feel the fall, and of course dressing our dogs up in matching costumes.

FAMILY TIME

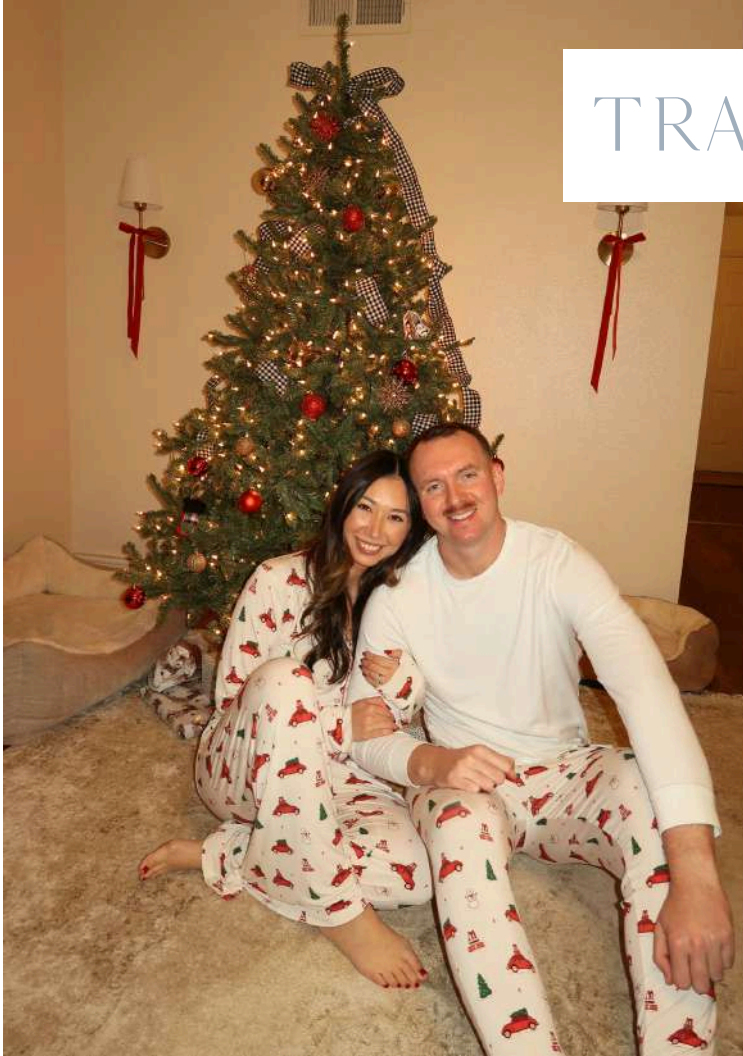
Our family enjoy getting dressed up on Christmas Eve for a lavish Christmas Eve spread. Natasha's mom always starts cooking in the morning, and includes all of her best dishes. Christmas mornings are a little slower, with presents in the morning followed by brunch and the annual Christmas Day outing to see the Christmas lights at a garden in Philadelphia, it is filled with family and connection.

CHRISTMAS TIME

We love slow, cozy, nights watching Christmas movies too- we always include the classics like Miracle on 34th Street, Elf, Home Alone, The Santa Clause, Christmas Hallmark movies. No night is complete without hot cocoa and Christmas cookies (the Pillsbury ones, of course). We also love a good Christmas time Disney day!

4TH OF JULY FUN

Our Fourth of July weekends are usually spent by the beach, soaking up the sunshine and celebrating together. Grill Master Jeff will take his post at his prized Traeger, spending the weekend perfecting a multitude of grilled favorites; while Natasha is usually found in the kitchen preparing fresh sides or baking a homemade strawberry pie with homemade whipped cream. In the summertime, our home also reflects the same spirit- it's usually filled with fresh hydrangeas, light blue gingham, and touches of Americana woven throughout the home.





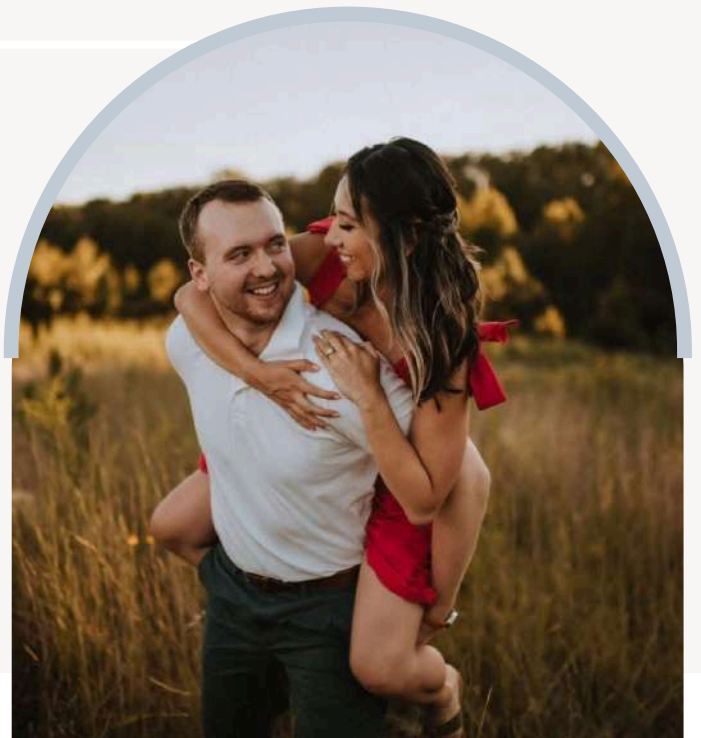
01. OUR FAITH THAT GROUNDS US

Our Christian faith is and will always be at the center of our home. It shapes the way we live, love, and care for each other. That means we go to church on Sundays (however if we can't make it in person, then we watch from our couch in our PJ's!), we pray together before bed and have a prayer journal, we read our Bibles together, and always remember to thank Jesus for everything in our life. We are active volunteers in our church community, and have a strong network through our Bible study and small groups. As parents, our hope is to raise our child with a love of Christ and a deep foundation of the Christian faith, by creating moments in our home where they feel God's love.



02. OUR FUTURE

As we look towards the future, we feel an overwhelming sense of hope and excitement for the life that we are building together- and the life that we one day will soon have. Our greatest dream is to grow our family and to fill our home with children- to fill every inch of our home with love, laughter, and all of our memories together. Being a military family, that means life can sometimes be where the military sends us- but as long as we have each other, then that just means another adventure will be in store for us. Currently, we are planning on staying in the Southern California area for the foreseeable future until Jeff's next training back home in Virginia. We also could have the option of living at any other Marine Corps base; this could be in Hawaii, Japan, or on the East Coast. Because the places we can be stationed are places people go for vacation- every day feels like a vacation to us! But exploring locally our city will always be a priority for us. Our hearts are open, and we feel so much joy thinking about the possibility of welcoming more children in our lives.





03. FUTURE PARENTS

Honor, love, respect, care and respect to our child feels like a warm blanket that they can carry with them wherever they go at whatever age. It looks like a home filled with belly laughs, bedtime stories that go on way too long, and creating magic in every day simple life. It feels like slow mornings in our pajamas on the couch, watching cartoons. It's creating an imaginary zoo, castle, or jungle in our living room. It's singing their favorite songs on the drive home after an afternoon at the park. It's found in the quiet moments, and the big ones. It's loving them and every last thing that makes them "them." It's celebrating who they are and who they will grow to be. It's creating traditions and a warm home that they will always take with them everywhere they go. If we are blessed to adopt a child, then we would always foster a sense of belonging in them. They will forever be our light in the midst of a storm; and that they were chosen, prayed for, and loved long before their story even began.

EDUCATION 04.

We believe an education is one of the greatest gifts we can give to our children. We will most likely be sending our children to public schools at the current time, given how highly ranked the public schools systems in our city are. We are very open to considering private school however, especially private religious school. Jeff had attended a private religious school as a child, and believes that it was some of the best education he had received during his formative years. We are very open to either option, and it will absolutely depend on what is best support our child. As college graduates, we will always encourage higher education with our children as we have seen the benefits firsthand; however we understand that not every child's path looks the same and will support our child in whatever that looks like. Whether that be traditional college experiences or not, we want them to always feel empowered to make decisions in their future, and will always remain their biggest support system no matter what.





from our hearts
thank you

Thank you. Those two words feel so small in comparison to the weight of the decision you are making, but please know that they come from the deepest place of our hearts. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about us, and for having the love and courage to walk this path. We see you, we honor you, and we hold so much space in our hearts for you.

We hope by catching a little glimpse into who we are, our deep longing and desire to have a family has been poured into the pages. Families come in a hundred different shapes and sizes, and there are a hundred different ways to make a family. Our family will be chosen, loved, and forever wanted- unconditionally.

Lastly, we want you to know that we have been praying for you and continue to do so. We pray that you are surrounded with the utmost peace that quiets all the outside noise, clarity, and comfort that reminds you you are not alone in this decision to consider adoption. No matter if our stories intertwine along the way or not, we hope that you always know how loved and cherished you are.

WITH OPEN HEARTS,

Jeff & Natasha



J
N