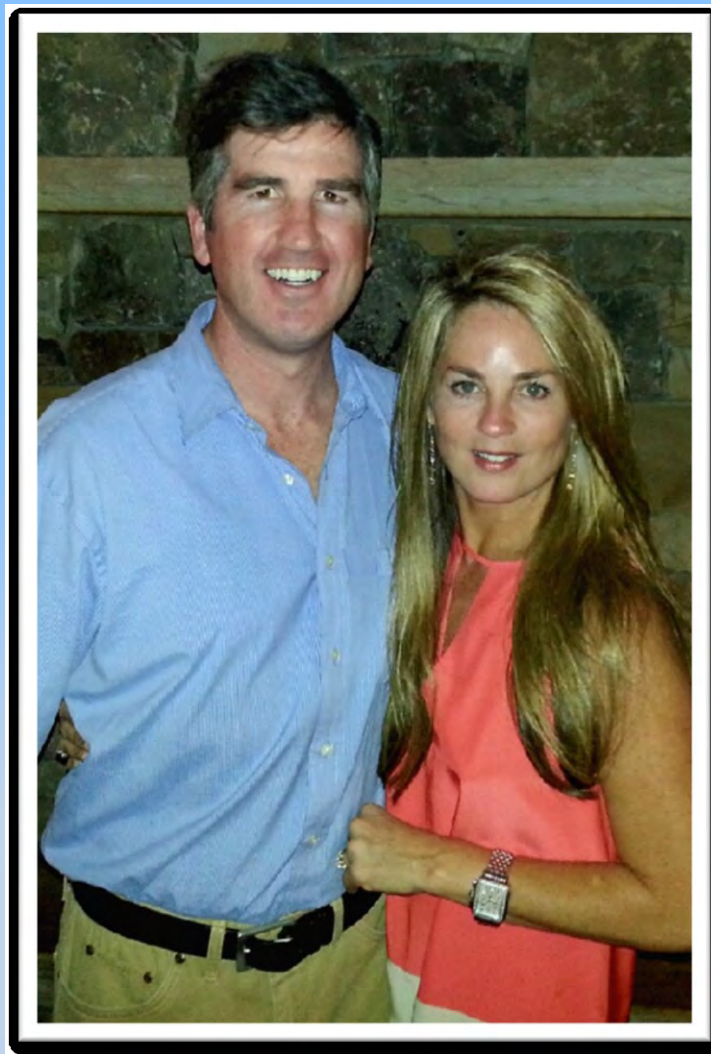




*Mike and Chmaine*



# *Introduction*

We are Chmaine and Mike. Thank you for taking time to read this and to get to know us better. We admire your courageous decision to give the gift of life, and we hope in these few pages that you can see our desire to provide a life of love to your child.

We adopted our daughter, Jordan, three years ago and it has been our wish for her to have a brother or sister. Adding another child to our family has been the most important pursuit for us, and infertility has led us towards adoption to complete our family. Being adoptive parents has been incredibly fulfilling and we know this is the perfect choice for us.

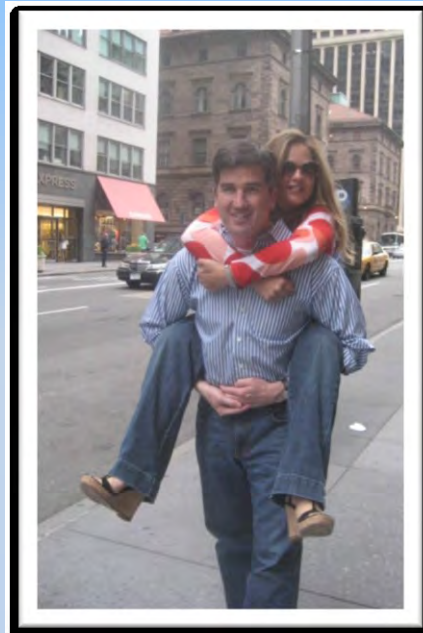
# About Us

Family is what we hold dearest to our hearts, and we have been blessed with Jordan and a large extended family that is very close and frequently gathers. This loving and supportive environment will help us create a fulfilling life for your child.

We met through friends in 1992 and were married in 1996. Our relationship has been one of great love and respect. We are a team, and we celebrate our accomplishments and support each other in our disappointments.



*Family football at Thanksgiving*



*Long day of walking in New York*







*College football season*

Our interests include travelling, cooking and playing sports. Almost all of our travel involves visiting family in various parts of the country. This makes for very fun and special times. We both enjoy cooking – Mike cooks strictly according to the recipe and Chmaine likes to improvise.



*Family visiting our home*

Chmaine is an excellent tennis player and has a bookcase full of trophies from all of her championships. Mike enjoys running several days a week and even completed a 26-mile marathon a few years ago. He also enjoys golfing with friends.

Both of us play football each Thanksgiving in our family's annual Turkey Bowl.



*Fun at the lake*



*Horseback in the mountains*



*Celebrating the 4th*

# About Chmaine

Chmaine has a wonderful spirit and positive energy that is difficult to describe. Words like selfless, loving and wise come to mind. People gravitate to her because she has tremendous compassion with unwavering loyalty. She is a person that you never forget once you meet her.

When Chmaine and I met, it changed everything for me. We have shared many adventures, celebrated each other's achievements and cared for each other in difficult times.

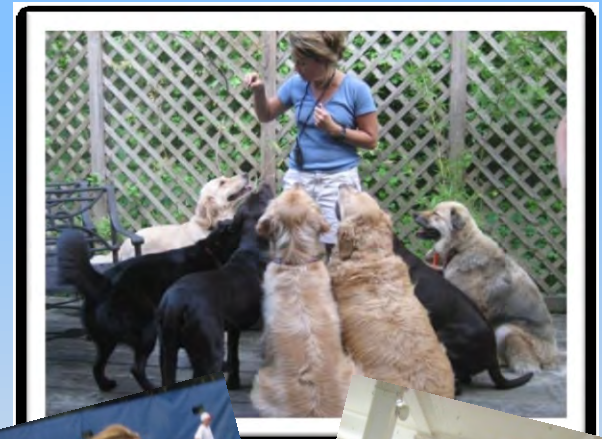
Chmaine was born to be a mom and has never lost her child-like spirit. The kids in our neighborhood flock to our house on weekends because they always have so much fun being with Chmaine. She has become a mentor to many of these kids.

Chmaine is a great mother to Jordan. She is caring, nurturing and consistent with how she cares for Jordan. She is definitely the favorite aunt to Mike's nieces and nephews. In fact, they started the "Chmaine Fan Club." Kids love Chmaine because she genuinely loves them and invests the time to really get to know them.

Chmaine loves to take Jordan to the park, My Gym, swimming and lots of play-dates with other kids. Chmaine is great at teaching Jordan, especially how to have good manners to everyone.



*Chmaine with a niece*







*Sleepovers with nieces, nephews.....*



*.....and neighbors.*



*Chmaine with Jordan*

Chmaine is a stay-at-home mom and has a little side-business of dog-sitting. The business actually started as a weekend of keeping a friend's dog and has resulted in a very successful dog-care business. She now has over 70 clients and has cared for over 100 dogs.

The success of her business doesn't surprise me at all and is a tell-tale sign of the kind of person she is. People trust her with their dogs and know that they are in the best of care.

Chmaine is an excellent tennis player and also likes to walk for exercise. She stays connected to her friends through various get-togethers like book club, supper club and bible study.

Chmaine always goes the extra mile for her family and friends. Her mom was once in a car accident, and Chmaine stayed by her side and took care of her until she was back on her feet. After Hurricane Katrina, Chmaine went to a local church and spent several days loading up trucks of donated clothes. When recently visiting a friend in the hospital, she befriended a lonely woman in the next room and visited with her and brought her cookies every day. All of these acts of kindness are done in a quiet, thoughtful manner. A heart of gold, an infectious laugh, a fun spirit and a genuine compassion for others are what attract me most to Chmaine.

I cannot envision a better mother than Chmaine.

# About Mike

Mike and I first met almost 20 years ago at a festival. I was with several of my girlfriends and he was with several of his buddies. We immediately hit it off that day and started an instant friendship. I think what first attracted me to Mike was that he was such a genuine, down-to-earth person and has the biggest heart of anyone I know. We have grown so close to each other since that day and have now been married for 16 years.

Mike is the most loyal husband and friend you will ever meet. When people meet him they immediately feel at ease from his calm presence and positive outlook. He has such a passion for life and always finds the good in other people. Mike is very dedicated to his family and friends and will do anything for them. People are often seeking out his wisdom because they respect his opinions immensely.

Mike comes from a very large family and has always been the favorite uncle of all the nieces and nephews. We always seem to have someone from his family visiting, and they love their Uncle Mike! The older nieces and nephews come to visit us each summer and he always makes sure that everybody has a good time.



*Mike with his goddaughter*

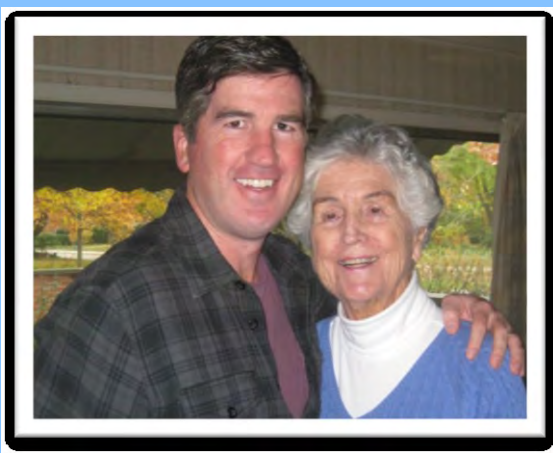


*North Carolina vacation*



*Mike with niece and nephews*





*Mike with his mom.....*



*.....and Jordan*



*Halfway through a marathon*



*The "big" catch!*

I am very proud of Mike's achievements. He is an entrepreneur and has been involved in growing many different technology businesses. He is the most dedicated hard worker that I know and has a tremendous desire to succeed.

Mike is an amazing dad to Jordan. They have a special relationship and love to play after he gets home from work and all day on weekends. He has taught her so much that Jordan can already turn on and play on the computer and iPad! He is wonderful with all children and has so much love to give. His heart is huge and his love is boundless. More than anything in the world we would like to add to our family, and we can't wait until that day comes and our prayers will have been answered.

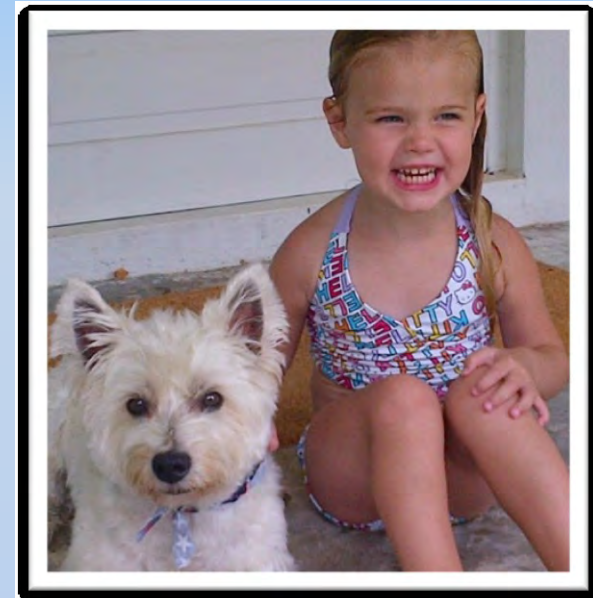
# About Jordan

We were thrilled when Jordan's birth mom selected us to adopt her newborn baby. Jordan is such a blessing and we have enjoyed every minute of parenthood with her. Jordan turned three in March and is a very sweet little girl. She is very healthy and is a great eater and sleeper!

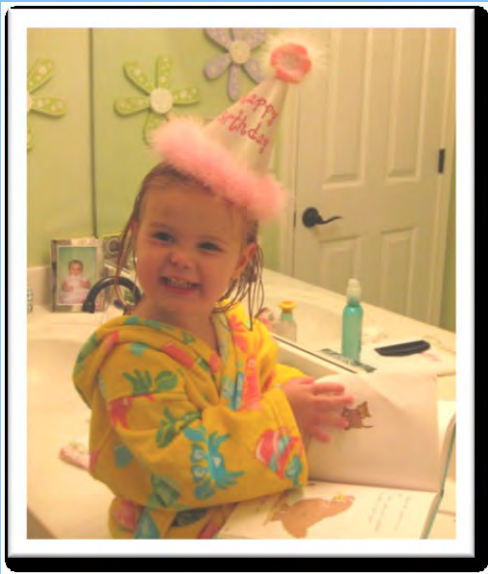
Jordan learns things very quickly and can now count to 40 and recite the alphabet. She loves for us to read her books each night and she will often just flip through her books on her own. She loves all sorts of gadgets, remote controls, cell phones and computers. She loves to explore and learn new things.

Jordan is taking swimming lessons, learning gymnastics and goes to preschool a few mornings a week. She loves being active and doing anything outdoors. Her favorite things to do are playing with the dogs on our back deck, visiting the playground at the park and going to the nearby pond that has bridges and all sorts of birds. She also loves to visit the horse stables next to the park.

We enjoy sending letters and pictures to Jordan's birth mother. We are forever grateful to her for such an un-selfish act and enjoy our special bond with her.









*Our Home*





We live in a southern metropolitan area on a small street of 20 homes. We know all of our neighbors and their kids, many of whom have become some of our best friends. Our home is the gathering place for many of the kids on the block. We always have a few cookies for an afternoon treat and have all of their favorite movies on DVD.



*On our back deck with neighbors*

We live in a district that has some of the best schools in the state. This will ensure that your child will get the best opportunity to be well-educated. We have many parks, children's museum and kids' recreational areas that provide many programs and activities for children.



*Neighborhood park*



*Fall clean-up*

# Our Heritage

Mike's parents were married over 50 years when his dad passed away in 2004. Mike's parents had 11 children, most of whom are now married, and there are 37 grandkids.



*Mike with his mom.....*

Chmaine's parents were married for 48 years when her dad passed away in 2010. She has two brothers and one nephew. Chmaine has many aunts, uncles and cousins who live nearby and we get to see them quite often. Her nephew stays with us for a week each summer and at Thanksgiving.



*and Jordan, Chmaine & Chmaine's mom*



*Chmaine's family*



*Mike's family*





*Rafting in North Carolina*

*Family Fun !*



Oftentimes we are asked how such a big family can be so close. The answer is that our parents instilled great importance in loving and supporting your family, and this philosophy has been passed on to several generations.

Gathering at holidays, birthdays and for vacations, as well as our various family traditions, are what we value and cherish.



*Family tradition every Thanksgiving*

# Letter recently received from our 12 year old neighbor

Dear Chmaine and Mike,

I am writing this letter to thank you for your generosity and love you have for me and my family.

You two have been there for us whenever we needed support. It is obvious that things have been tough with our lifestyle in the past year and half, and that creates a lot of tension in our household and fights and problem. Every time I felt like breaking down I thought of you two and found hope and happiness.

Chmaine, you are always saying how you wished you had someone in your life who plays the same role as you do in mine. And I think every body wishes that. But I do not have to because I already have you guys in my life. And knowing that I can run up to your house and talk to you guys or get out of the house is such an enlightening feeling.

I have had trouble at school with making friends and at home and when I am with you two I feel like I have escaped it for a little bit. And sometimes that I am helping the problems by being and talking to you about it.

So many lessons have been learned in that house and in ours that have changed my life. You have taught me what real friendship is. An Unbreakable, indestructible and invincible bond that lies deep within your heart and carries you when you can not walk and that picks you up when you have fallen and that keeps you living and believing. Without you guys I would feel lonely and depressed unable to deal with my father and having no one to talk to it about. That might sound like a depressing thought but how could I not feel that way. I am so thankful and blessed to have two mentors, guardian angels, friends, family members, neighbors, teachers, and believers in my life. I know I say it all the time but it is so true. Thank you.

I have also learned to stand up for myself believe in myself and to love myself.

You may say that you do not have children, but I think Alyssa and I, and even Erin have learned, grown, needed, and loved you two enough to say you play a parental role in all of our lives. Luckily you are also our friends and we look up to you for guidance but that is the only difference.

Thank you two for every thing and making my birthday a truly special day. The cards were so full of heart and the gifts were amazing. I have already used my Daisy Daisy tote bag and every one thought it was so cute. I had a blast and appreciate it immensely.

I wish and hope that you two will come to my family with your troubles and needs because we may not have a lot of some things but we have a lot of heart and hope. So do not hold back. It is a pleasure and an expectation. I believe in you two. And I love you two. And nothing will ever, ever, ever change that.

Thank you

I love you Mike And Chmaine

Always,

♥ Gabrielle

P.S I know that letters are always more sincere hand written but this is no less honest. I just thought of the length of the letter and by hand writing it, it would become difficult to read. The font is also comcastic!





*Mar's best friend!*



*Mike's goddaughter*



*Jordan's first train ride*



*Birthday party*



*Chmaine Fan Club*



*Karaoke night*

*More about us*



*Horseback riding in California*





## THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING US

We appreciate your consideration of us to be the parents of your child. We are ready to provide your child with our love, the love of our extended family and a comfortable home. We will support and love your child and provide all that we can to ensure a fulfilling life.

