

RUDY *and* KATIE

Hi There!

Thank you for taking the time to look at our profile! We are a loving, affectionate couple who is excited to grow our family. We hope you'll see on the following pages that we value family, adventure, fun, and faith.

We know this is a pivotal time in your life, and want to best support you and your baby throughout your journey. We know that we will never understand exactly what you are feeling. We hope that this profile, and we ourselves, can be an encouraging and sensitive space for you to explore. Again, thank you so much for being here.

SENDING OUR LOVE,

Rudy and Katie

Our love story



In June of 2016, life was going well for both Katie and Rudy. Katie had just bought her dream historic cottage and had started a major restoration project. Rudy was several months into his first position as an attorney and working hard to prove himself. Happy people attract happy people, and we like to think that's exactly what happened.

Believe it or not, we first met on Match.com. Rudy immediately loved Katie's smile and wanted to meet that cute dog in her pictures. Rudy loved Katie's fun sense of adventure, and Katie adored Rudy's laidback nature and patience for her "dad jokes." The phrase "I'm crazy about you!" quickly became part of our conversations.

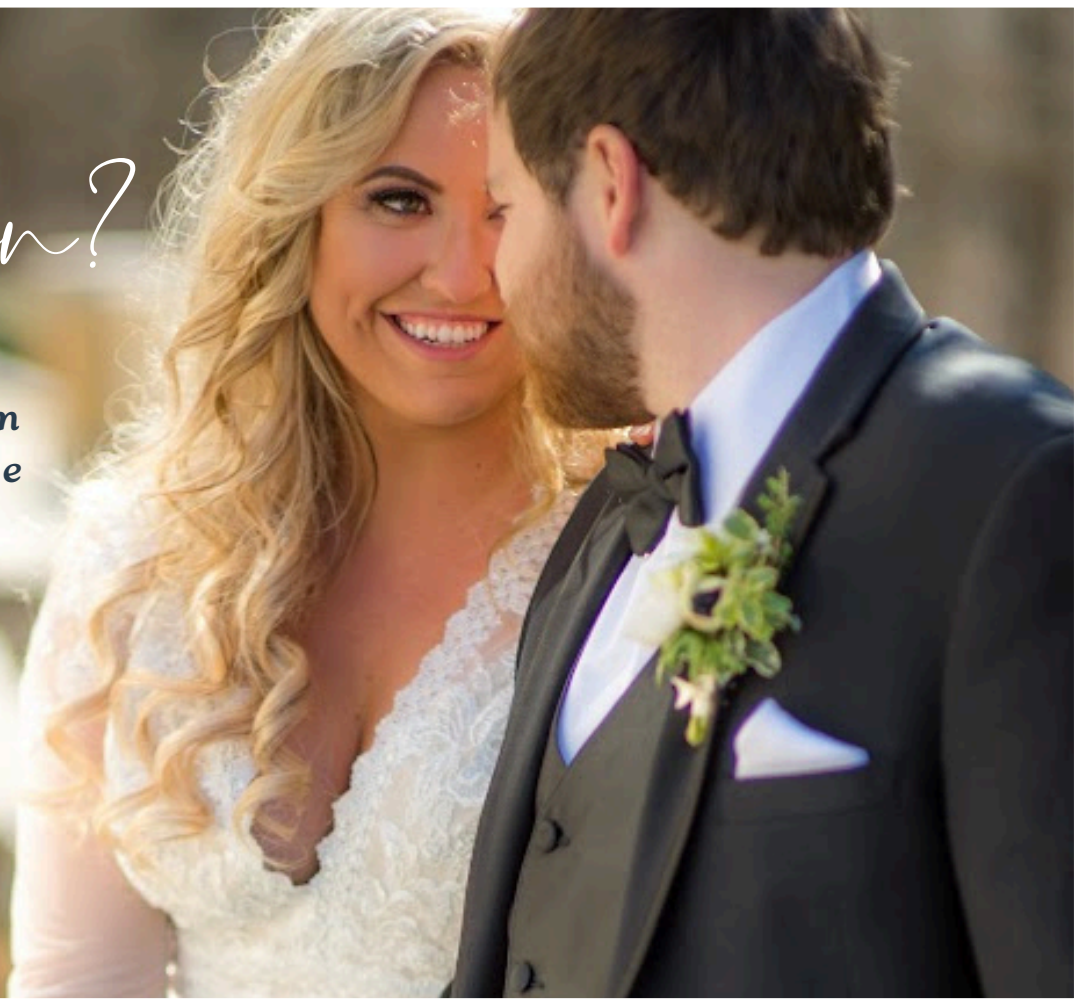


Just under two years later, we were married in Indianapolis in a historic home surrounded by family and friends. Our vows brought more than a few to tears as we promised each other a lifetime of jokes and partnership. Photos took a while as we had more than 100 family members sharing our special day! It has been smooth sailing ever since, and we look back on the early years with sweet nostalgia.

WHY

adoption?

“We have known from the beginning that we wanted to adopt.”



Although we have had a journey of infertility and loss, adoption was never our “Plan B”. We discussed adoption before even getting engaged because it was a crucial point on which to agree in our relationship. We were both relieved and excited to learn the other had always wanted to pursue adoption as well!

Through our individual genealogy research, we learned that Katie’s great-grandmother was adopted in the late 1800s. Her family started with adoption and it is a continued legacy. This gives us a sense of belonging for our future children - they will never be the ‘other.’

Additionally, Katie’s best friend was adopted and we have learned so much from her willingness to share her experiences over the years. Her enthusiastic encouragement is what gave us the spark to begin our journey.





ALL ABOUT

Katie!

I was born in France to American parents, and mom made sure I always had a bit of France surrounding me. I learned French from a young age and French meals like Salade Nicoise and Chocolate Torte were always in our meal rotation. The first half of my childhood was spent in a humble ranch in northern New Jersey - on 10 acres that had a babbling brook running through it!

Summers back then were spent on Long Beach Island at my grandparents' shore house. All the cousins and aunts would pile in. No air conditioning, no cable- but the ocean and its breeze were a block away and we were the happiest kids. We moved to Indiana when I was in 4th grade and there was certainly no more mountainside! However, mom made our home a child's paradise with a pool, doll houses, and tetherball galore. As a child, I chose to make sure to always welcome the new kids since I knew what they were feeling. The theme of 'welcoming the new kids' at the lunch table followed me to adulthood as I flourished in a career in hospitality. Making everyone feel welcome and included is my ultimate fulfillment.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS:

- Cooking
- Entertaining
- Learning new languages
- Walking Murphy
- Reading
- Quality time with family
- Planning Events

ALL ABOUT

Rudy!



I was born in Indianapolis and spent my entire childhood growing up in the area. However, the two homes I grew up in were surrounded by cornfields on at least one side of the house. We always had the “country” home, which was really a ranch home with 2 acres to play lots of sports on.

My brother and I regularly hosted friends and cousins to play baseball, basketball, soccer, and football outside. My parents always strongly encouraged me to participate in many academically advanced programs from elementary school through high school. I was very involved in high school, doing quite a variety of things such as writing for the school newspaper, serving as a captain on the soccer team, as well as being President of the Recycling Club. My brother and I both attended Butler University in Indianapolis and joined the same fraternity. The farthest I’ve ever lived from Indianapolis was in Valparaiso, Indiana for three years of law school. Many of my friends from both college and law school live all over the country, so when Katie and I travel, there are lots of places we can go to visit friends.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS:

- Golfing
- Snuggling Murphy and Katie
- Swimming
- Watching movies at the theater
- Reading
- Going to fun restaurants
- Walking our town

home sweet home

We love where we live!



Our home is a cozy 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom cottage with a carriage house just beyond the back garden. It was built in 1868, but has been updated with modern conveniences. We have a big brick front porch with rocking chairs, and a beautiful backyard with flowers, seating, and room for play. We lovingly recall sharing a picture of ourselves on social media the day Rudy moved in; The caption read, "We'll rock our babies on this very front porch."



The front yard has a 4 foot picket fence, and the back has a full 6 foot privacy fence for safety. We are happy to also have a carriage house just beyond the back garden which includes a 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment above our garage. It has a lovely living area as well and we use it frequently. We keep the stairs gated for child and dog safety. Our favorite neighbor is only 4 doors down- Katie's mom. She even has a dedicated playroom in addition to a shallow pool and bedrooms for visiting children. The pool has both an automatic cover and fence to protect little ones.





OUR *Michigan* HOME

We are grateful to also have a 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom home on Lake Michigan with Katie's mom. We bought this home specifically because it's a town that is perfect for a future family. Life up north is a little quieter than in Indiana, but it's just as lovely. We love taking morning walks down to the lighthouse, and dipping our toes in the water during the gentle waves at sunset. We have truly spent our entire adult lives creating a world that we hope is home to the happiest childhoods there ever were. Until our kids start school, we plan to spend much of our of time up north making memories as a family.



OUR FUR BABY, *Murphy!*

We have one special girl named Murphy Clare who is a mixed breed that somewhat resembles a yellow lab. Murphy is a rescue so we're not sure of her age, but we estimate 9-10 years old. Murphy absolutely loves children and is so gentle with them. She is a fun dog with personality, but she is also very intuitive and eager to comfort when she senses someone is having a hard time.





Our extended family

We are extremely close with our family. Katie comes from a small family with only a handful of cousins, and grew up with weekly dinners with extended family. As mentioned, Katie's mom's home is only 80 steps away from ours, and we also share Michigan with her so just about everything we do is a family affair. Rudy comes from a massive family nearby- over 100 people altogether, and they're ALL close! We get together with all sides of the family for almost every occasion: Memorial Day, Labor Day, Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving - you get the idea. Every reunion is a potluck and we all have our special dishes. We tend to supply all types of yummy vegetable dishes and healthy options. Rudy's brother specializes in smoked meats. Cousin Ryan brings macaroni and cheese and Rudy's mom and aunt bake the most amazing cookies!



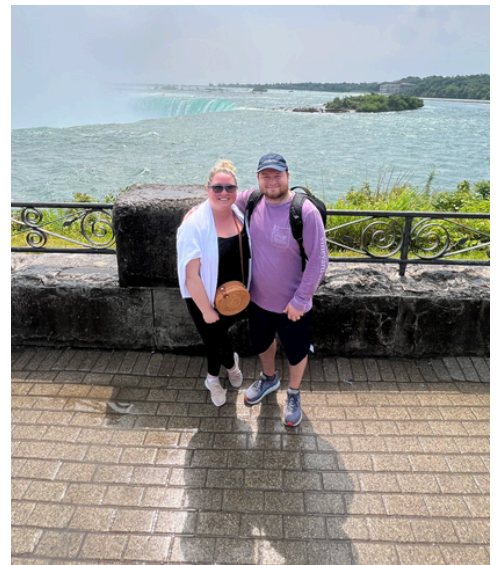


Every year we host a 'Cousins Weekend' where folks drive and fly in to spend time together. Even after decades, the relationships from growing up as one giant family are still strong. Two of our cousins' youngest children served as the flower girls in our wedding, and we have developed a very special bond. When they come to visit, we make meals together, take walks to the park, paint our nails, and cuddle on the sofa with princess movies. We love that our family is so close and will continue to expand with so much love and diversity. It is the BEST family to be a cousin in! We have a strong emotional bond in our family as well. We memorialize those who have passed by making sure stories continue to circulate and they're never truly lost. Most of our family is split between central and northern Indiana, but we have cousins in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, and Georgia with whom we are close as well. Always nice to visit family in places that feel like vacation!

We love adventure!



We have always loved to travel together. In fact, we have two scratch-off maps in our home. One is of the world, and one is of the USA. We hope to visit all 50 states together and experience as many international destinations as we can in our lifetime. We've been to 37 states together and have been fortunate to travel to Canada, England, Scotland, and France (Katie's birth country) as well. Most recently, an adventure this autumn took us from Portland, Oregon through Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, all the way to Chicago on a sleeper train! We were able to get off the train to explore Glacier National Park and other areas of the country! This is the type of unique adventure we know kids will love. A great deal of travel that we take as a family will also be to Michigan and a potential home in South Carolina.



our promises

To you and your child

We promise to honor your story, and share it with positivity and love from Day 1.

We promise that we will be a sanctuary of warmth and peace for your child.

We promise to remain steadfast in our commitments to you.

We promise to never waver in that your child will be our absolute first priority as long as we live.

We promise to create a safe, healthy dynamic with open communication.

We promise to solve conflict in a healthy manner

We promise through travel and service to ensure your child sees the world, and does not grow up in a 'bubble.'

We promise to celebrate all parts of your child's culture, ancestry, and heritage.

We promise to be a symphony of unconditional love and support in which there is no inharmonious note.

With love,

RUDY & KATIE





Adoption
SUPPORT CENTER