

**LORI &
STEVE**



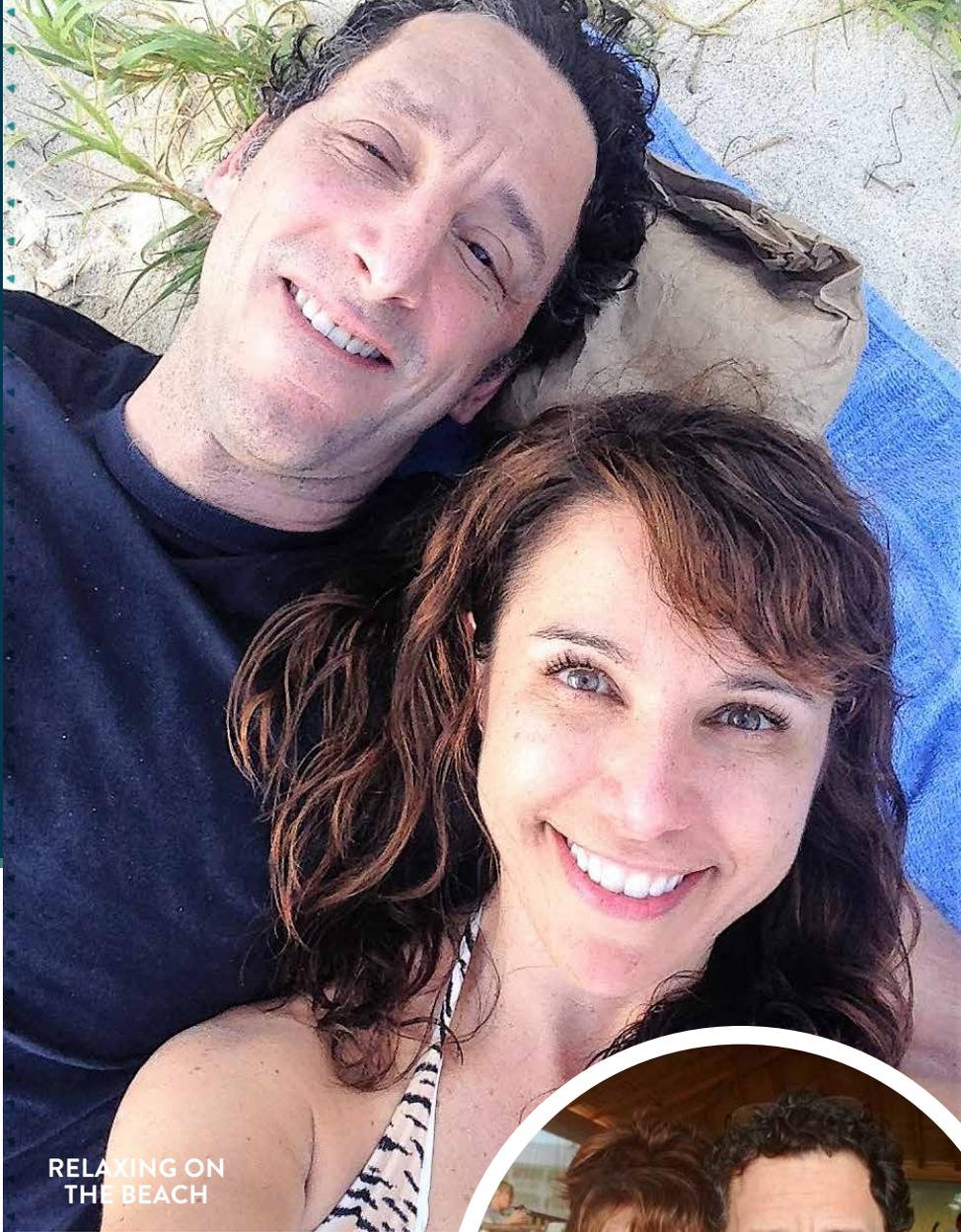
Hi!
WE'RE

LORI & STEVE

THANK YOU FOR
CONSIDERING ADOPTION
FOR YOUR BABY AND THE
TYPE OF FAMILY WHO
WOULD BE BEST SUITED
TO RAISE YOUR BABY.

We can only imagine how difficult
this is. Our hearts go out to you.

We'd like to tell you a little bit about us. We hope this will give you a feel for whether we'd be the right parents for your baby. This isn't everything about us, of course, so please don't hesitate to get in touch to learn more.



RELAXING ON
THE BEACH



HAVING A BLAST ON
VACATION

OUR SIMPLE Promise

WE BEGIN WITH A SIMPLE,
BUT IMPORTANT PROMISE.

If given the opportunity, **WE PROMISE TO LOVE YOUR CHILD UNCONDITIONALLY.** We will love and support them through all of life's ups and downs, in good times and in bad, no matter what. That has always been our promise to each other. It's also our promise to you and to your child. In our experience, everything else falls into place from there.

WE WOULD
Love to Hear
FROM YOU!



THE AMSTERDAM
CANALS

THE STORY OF How We Met

WE MET IN June OF 2016

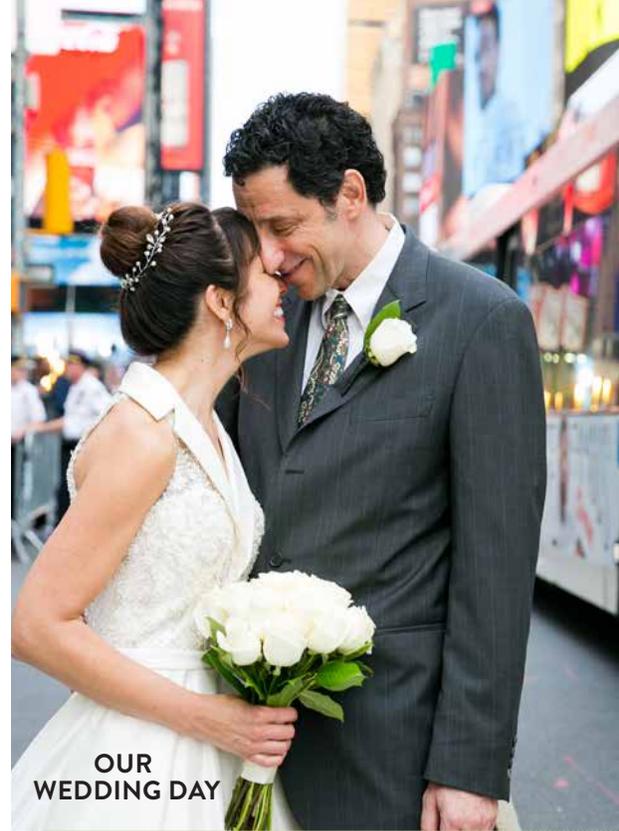
At the time, Lori was living in Washington, D.C. Her job started requiring her to be in New York more and more often, so she decided to get an apartment for a couple of months. She went straight to the internet and found just the place—a fifth-floor walkup apartment in a colorful Manhattan neighborhood. A guy named Joe was renting it out, looking for a tenant who would take extra good care of it. Within hours of seeing the ad, Lori found her way to the neighborhood to check out the apartment. The place was perfect—not too big, not too small, big windows, and plenty of

sunlight. There was just one important step that stood between Lori and renting the apartment she hoped for: approval from the head of the apartment (co-op) building, Steve.

Steve lived on the third floor. Intent on meeting Joe's prospective renter, he planted himself outside the building on the afternoon of Lori's visit, hoping for a chance to say hello and figure out whether she would be a responsible tenant and neighbor. Steve told Lori about the building, the neighborhood, himself, and his family. He told her about the fun things his family did together, such as the bicycle trip they take together every year. Lori told Steve about herself and her family,

too, as they stood outside that afternoon, meeting for the first time and taking it all in. Within weeks they were dating, dancing, and laughing together on a regular basis.

Fast forward sixteen months. Steve and Lori again found themselves standing outside together on a sunny New York afternoon. Only this time, they weren't alone. This time, they were standing in front of a gathering of family, friends, and loved ones. **They were married in Central Park in October of 2017.** Lori's landlord, Joe, was the best man. To this day, he likes to tell anyone who will listen that *his* apartment was responsible for one of the best matches of all time.



OUR
WEDDING DAY

Plan A

Even before we got married, we knew we wanted to start a family together – THROUGH ADOPTION. Unlike many couples who choose adoption, we've never undergone fertility treatments or despaired over not getting pregnant. Why? Because we've always loved the idea of adoption. **For us, adoption has been "PLAN A" – our dream – from the very start.**

Part of it is this: In our world, adoption is just really familiar. We know lots of people who were adopted and who adopted children. We have good friends with young children who were adopted. And five of our nieces and nephews were adopted, with another on the way. This has allowed us to see firsthand how beautiful adoption can be for all involved.



WHO WE ARE

About

LORI &
STEVE

Those who know Steve describe him as **KIND, SELFLESS, and the MOST PATIENT PERSON they've ever encountered.** Steve has always wanted to start a family, but not until the right person came along to share the experience. That's where Lori comes in.



STEVE ON OUR WEDDING DAY

HAVING BIRTHDAY MORNING PANCAKES



Lori's friends describe her as a **POSITIVE, GENEROUS PERSON** who shows **UNDIVIDED ATTENTION** and **GENUINE CARE** to each person she meets. Lori comes from a big family and has lots of experience with children. When Steve came along, she knew she had finally found the person she was meant to start a family with.



LORI IN NEW YORK CITY

OUR FUN FACTS & Favorites

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

L: Music
S: Seltzer

CHILDREN'S TV SHOW

BOTH: Sesame Street!

CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY

L: Sing-alongs with my parents and siblings
S: Coaching baseball with my Dad

DESSERT

L: Cheesecake
S: Ice Cream

PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD

L: Chuck E Cheese
S: Children's Museum

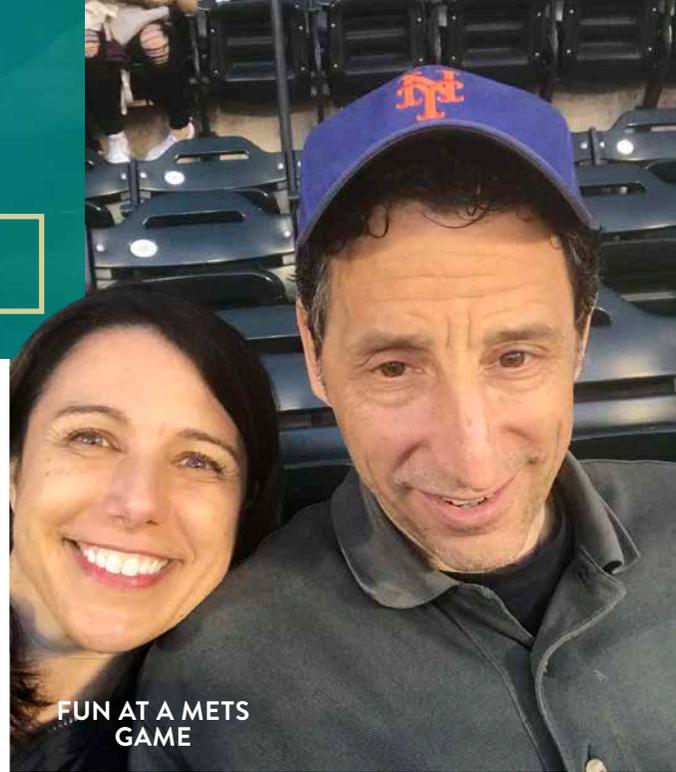
CHILDREN'S BOOK

L: She Persisted
S: Green Eggs and Ham

HOBBIES, INTERESTS & PASSIONS

WE LOVE DOING THINGS TOGETHER AND ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME A CHILD INTO OUR LIVES.

The typical weekend for us includes a walk to the local farmer's market and a bike ride around nearby Prospect Park. We also enjoy going to church every weekend. Sunday is laundry day (boring, but important!). Steve is in charge of washing, Lori does the folding, and we usually listen to music as we work together. We share the other household duties, as well, such as grocery shopping and cooking. We're currently learning to make Italian recipes. Having Steve's mom to teach us makes it all the more fun.



FUN AT A METS GAME



THE SOUP KITCHEN WHERE STEVE WORKS

We are both lucky to work in jobs that make us happy. **Steve is a social worker. He works at a soup kitchen that also serves as a food pantry.** He loves his work, especially the amazing community around him. His work helps give him purpose and perspective.

Lori loves her job, too. **She is a psychology professor.** She also works with the United Nations, where

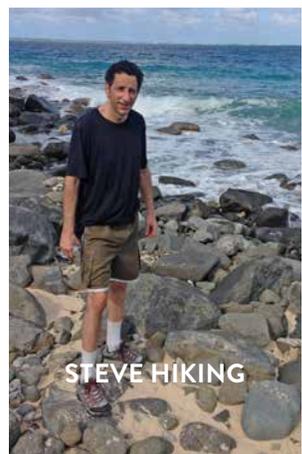
she focuses on the wellbeing of children around the world. Lori is passionate about using behavioral science to help people live happier, healthier lives. As a professor, she especially enjoys mentoring students. **With a generous leave policy and every summer off, she has a family-friendly, flexible job that will ensure we are always there for our child, no matter when and no matter what.**



AT PROSPECT PARK

LORI HIKING

Overall, we enjoy learning as we go and having serious, silly, and fun times with each other, our friends, and our families. **We look forward to including a child in our hobbies, interests, and life passions, as well as developing new interests and traditions together as our family grows.**



STEVE HIKING





OUR COMMUNITY

HOME Sweet HOME



OUR FOURTH FLOOR DECK



VOLUNTEERING WITH STEVE'S MOM

WE CHOSE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND HOME WITH BUILDING A FAMILY IN MIND. IT'S WELCOMING, DIVERSE, AND VERY CHILD-FRIENDLY! We own a bright, spacious home within walking distance of good schools and church, with a park right across the street.

One of the best parts of our building is the fourth-floor deck, which includes a playground, as well as picnic tables and grills. Families congregate there regularly to hang out, have meals, and to give their children a chance to play together. Many families with small children live in our community. On our floor alone, there are at least five children under the age of five, as well as lots of other nice people, such as our next-door neighbor, Phyllis, who often bakes cookies and brings them over to share. The building is pet friendly too, with pets who are always ready to play.



RELAXING AT THE PARK



OUR FAVORITE PARK!



STEVE VOLUNTEERING AT THE SOUP KITCHEN

Introducing

THE PEOPLE

THAT WE LOVE

OUR FAMILY

WE WERE BOTH FORTUNATE TO GROW UP IN STABLE, LOVING ENVIRONMENTS.

Steve's parents have been married now for more than fifty years, and so have Lori's parents. Steve was born in Brooklyn and comes from a fun family that loves to cook, eat, and get together whenever possible. Steve has a sister, a brother-in-law, and two nieces. His parents regularly volunteer at the soup kitchen where he works.

Lori was born in a small town in rural Wisconsin. She comes from a big, happy, Catholic family with six brothers and sisters and seventeen nieces and nephews. Her family enjoys playing music and board games and spending time together as much as possible. They are so happy Steve is part of the family. At Steve and Lori's wedding, Lori's dad brought his guitar and sang a song called "Living on Love" to mark the occasion.



FESTIVITIES WITH LORI'S FAMILY

With such a large extended family, there are many family traditions we enjoy throughout the year. Some are quirky, like the annual jigsaw puzzle-making contest and when the ladies of the family all wear hats on the same day. Others are more traditional, like celebrating together on the holidays.

For example, on Thanksgiving, we often go to Lori's sister Michelle's house where our parents, siblings, nieces, and nephews come join in the fun. The day begins with a "turkey trot" around the neighborhood, with neighbors on hand to cheer on the walkers and runners. Afterwards, we head back to Michelle's house to begin preparing the meal together. Wandering around Michelle's house on Thanksgiving Day feels like an opportunity to "choose your own adventure." There are different people and activities in each room—football on the TV in the living room with a fire crackling in the background, children playing board games or running around outside playing tag, and people in the kitchen cooking, talking, and laughing. There is never a dull moment, and we always return home with fond memories of the holiday with loved ones.

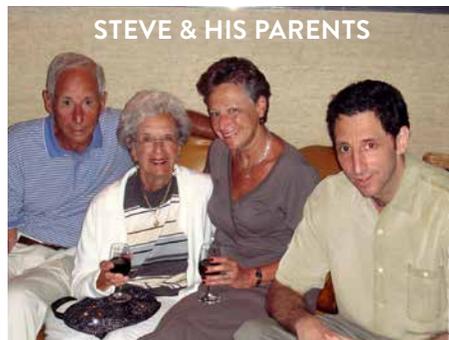


OUR LOVED ONES ON OUR WEDDING DAY!

LORI & HER PARENTS



STEVE & HIS PARENTS



LORI & HER SISTERS



FROM OUR Hearts

Thank you for reading about us. We are excited to welcome a child into our family and we hope this glimpse of our lives is helpful as you think about what's best for you and your child.

If you decide to move forward with adoption, we would love to hear from you—not only while you're pregnant, but afterwards, too. We support open adoption, which can take many different forms. We would welcome

the opportunity to develop a plan together that respects and reflects how much contact you want to have before, during, and after the adoption. If you think we could be the right parents for your child, please reach

out any time. We are happy to answer any questions, big or small.

WITH BEST WISHES,
Lori & Steve



GETTING IN
Touch

You can contact our attorney, Laurie, if that feels more comfortable, or feel free to reach out to us directly :)

loriandsteveadopt@gmail.com

Our Attorney, Laurie Goldheim
845-624-2727

lgoldheim@adoptionrights.com