



TARA
and
FRED



5 FUN FACTS ABOUT TARA

- 1 I took 6 years of ballet.
- 2 I am a first in my family to graduate from college. I spoke at The What If conference where I presented on being a family generation changer.
- 3 In 2018, I completed my first full Tough Mudder, a 10-mile obstacle race.
- 4 I ran track in high school and was a sprinter. I ran the 100, 200 and 400 meter dash and the relays.
- 5 I am a published poet! I published my first poem when I was 10, titled Hot Air Balloon Ride.

5 FUN FACTS ABOUT FRED

- 1 I've been scuba diving since I was 12 years old.
- 2 I was a drum major in high school. I love playing piano and leading worship.
- 3 I've been on two international mission trips to the Philippines and Haiti.
- 4 I love to cook. I have a Big Green Egg smoker/grill that is the best to cook on. I enjoy smoking meats, grilling pizza and even making desserts on the egg.
- 5 One of my favorite movies is A Beautiful Mind.



For this child we have prayed

1 SAMUEL 1:27

Dear Expectant Mother,

We've tried our best to create a snapshot in our profile that captures a little bit about who we are, but know we have so much more we'd like to share. We hope that you're able to see our personalities and love through the next couple of pages. We are a devoted, Christian, music and travel-loving, married couple of seven years waiting to welcome our first child into our home. For the past six years, we've been actively trying to start a family. The process has been a difficult journey, but we are hopeful that you and your child will become part of our story.

We don't know the circumstances that have brought you to this moment, but we can tell you that we are grateful you are here. From the beginning of our adoption journey, we have prayed for you and continue to pray that you feel peace with your decision. We greatly admire your strength, courage and love for your child as you consider adoption. We will be open about your adoption story, and promise to never unwrite you and your love out of it.

We promise to always love, nurture and protect your child. We will show understanding and grace and always place the child's best interest first. We will provide a safe and stable home and create experiences that will encourage growth and exploration. We will give your child a life filled with love and opportunity. He/she will be surrounded by family and friends, and will grow up knowing the meaning of unconditional love. We want your child to understand your love and admire you for your strength and selflessness. We'd love for you to be a part of our family, or whatever level of involvement you feel most comfortable with.

Thank you for your consideration in making our dream of becoming parents a reality.

With love,
Fred and Tara Stone



Why we want a child

WHY I WANT TO BE A MOM

I have thought about motherhood for a long time, and though I know there will be times when being a mom will challenge me in ways I can't even imagine, I know I am meant to be a mom. There are so many things I am looking forward to as a mom. I want to be a mom who makes a difference, offers security, and teaches life lessons. I can't wait to watch him/her grow and develop his/her own little personality. I will love that baby more than words can describe, and I can't wait for all the giggles and cuddles!

WHY I WANT TO BE A DAD

I've always wanted to be a dad. Growing up, family was a huge part of my life – we did everything together: games, weekends camping at the lake, barbeques at our house in the country, goofing off at home. I can't wait to instill that positive sense of family with my own kids and help him or her to find their true potential to help them become who they want to be.





Our story

We met at our church, Christian Life Center. Fred was leading worship and singing on stage; it was love at first sight for me. I made it my goal to get to know Fred as soon as possible. After more than 2 years of friendship, Fred took me on our first date on his 25th birthday. We drove to Saint Louis and enjoyed the day together at Forest Park. He proposed to me on the beach in the Grand Cayman Island in March 2011, and we were married on the beach in Fort Morgan, Alabama six months later. It's been over seven years, and we love the life we've built together. It's a life built out of love, communication and commitment, and we can't wait to start a new chapter as parents.

Our community and careers

We live in the beautiful Ozarks where green space, clean rivers and streams, and conservation are a way of life. Through our careers working at a research university, we have come to love the safety and diversity of our small community. Our area is known as 'the middle of everywhere' because of our close proximity to major cities for a weekend getaway or longer family vacations. Although our area in the Ozarks is small (less than 20,000), adventure awaits! The university where we both work provides plenty of opportunities for fun and education for children by hosting camps and special events that celebrate cultures from around the world.

We are fortunate that our employer invests in education; our future children will have full access and funding to the school of their choosing within the Missouri system. It is also perfectly fine if our child chooses a different path, but it is reassuring to know the fully-funded 4-year education option is there waiting.





Our home

We are only a few short minutes from several outdoor points of interest, including a local favorite, the shady and paved Acorn Trail. The community enjoys the safe location, creeks, wildlife food lots, pedestrian footbridge and parks at either end of the trail. We have enjoyed this trail as a couple since we were dating, and we are excited to load up a stroller and experience the trail for the first time as a family.

We own our 3 bed, 2 bath home at the very end of a cul-de-sac, and our backyard is forest. It is not unusual for us to be enjoying morning coffee at our kitchen table and look out the bay window and see a family of deer. With all the deer, birds, butterflies and other wildlife, our backyard can at times seem like a nature reserve!

Though we enjoy new experiences, there is no place like home. Home is more than a house to us; it's a sacred space of love where we have conversations, start traditions and make memories.



Fred

HI! IM FRED

I am a logical, analytical problem-solver who loves to work towards big goals in all areas of my life. I love to learn, and I love to be creative! I get to exercise my creative muscles in my career as an engineer and in my love for music.

I graduated with a bachelor of science in metallurgical engineering and most recently an MBA, and I actually work at my alma mater as director of design, construction and space management. Working collaboratively with other design professionals – architects, engineers and planners – is rewarding, particularly on large, complex architectural projects. I love having the opportunity to play a lead role in the development of the long-term vision of the buildings and grounds at the university, which is integral to the community.

ABOUT ME

I play the keyboard and guitar, and sing and lead in our church band. I have a deep love and appreciation for music of all kinds.

I also love to travel to experience new cultures and places. I've been fortunate to travel to the Philippines, Cayman Islands, Hawaii, Vancouver, Haiti, and all over the USA – the most recent trips I've taken have been with my best friend and wife, Tara. My favorite thing to do in life is to spend time with and laugh with family and friends.

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

- Music
- Golfing
- Outdoors: camping, hiking, etc.
- Cooking, grilling, entertaining
- Spending time with friends and family

ABOUT MY FAMILY

I enjoy a close relationship with my parents and brother, and we are also close in proximity because most of my family also lives in the Ozarks. We love family gatherings: cookouts, potlucks, float trips, and playing games together. Scuba diving is a family tradition, and Tara actually got certified to dive when we were first dating. I've dived with my family in the Missouri lakes and in the Cayman Islands!

My dad, Fred, is a pilot, and during the summer months he flies a plane fighting fires. He is a carpenter in the off-season and loves spending time outdoors hunting, fishing, and riding motorcycles.

My mom, Cathy, owns her own business, and she enjoys exercising, golfing, and spending time planting flowers and working in her yard. We share the same love for cooking, and she's one of my biggest teachers.

My brother, Kyle, spends a lot of time outdoors and works as a carpenter. He's a golfer too and loves playing games with our family.

Everyone is so excited to welcome and love the first grandchild on my side of the family!

LIFE PASSIONS

I'm a natural problem-solver and am addicted to finding creative, innovative ways to solve challenges. I love the richness that life has given me with the time I get to spend with family and friends – whether sharing in hobbies or just spending time together on the nights and weekends.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT TARA

Tara has taught me how to love others more and just to be a better human. I love how she cares for others, listens to what they have to say, and never gives up on people. She's a very determined, intelligent individual who doesn't give up on her dreams. Tara has a passion for everything she does and doesn't do anything half-heartedly. She always looks for the potential in others and takes interest in helping others achieve their dreams. I love everything about who Tara is.



Tara

HI! IM TARA

Faith, family and friendships are pretty much what make my world go round. My faith is my guiding light and I strive to always love people like Jesus loves people. Family and friendships are my heart; we love game nights and having everyone over to hang out.

I have my bachelor of science and master of science in technical communication. I'm passionate about my career as a User Interface/Experience designer because it is the perfect fusion of creativity and technology. I am able to be creative while working on improving people's lives through technology. My job is to focus on people and make their experience with a website or app the best it can be. Making an impact on someone's life in a tangible way is very rewarding.

My job at the university is also flexible and fully supports a healthy work/life balance. I will have ample time off when baby arrives and can return to a flexible work/ home schedule after leave.

ABOUT MY FAMILY

I have 3 siblings who I love with all my heart. My older brother and sister are from my dad's previous marriage and although we didn't grow up in the same household, they are a big part of my life. My brother, Scott, is a police officer and my older sister, Brandi, works at a technology company. My sister, Julia, and I are only 22 months apart. We grew up very close, and her daughter, Haley and son, Noah are a huge part of our lives. They spend weeks with us at a time over summer break just so we can be together and enjoy new experiences, like our area's famous 4th of July carnival or their favorite swimming pool. They will wear the title of 'cousin' with pride. Our niece already can't wait to come help us with the baby and shower him/her with hugs and kisses. I am extremely close to my grandparents, and I consider my grandma one of my very best friends. We talk on the phone every day. My mom, grandparents, aunt and cousins all live just minutes away from us and are so excited about having a new baby to spoil!

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

- Fitness: yoga, weight lifting, running
- Reading
- Writing poetry
- Art/design
- Outdoors: camping, hiking, floating

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT FRED

Not only is Fred an amazing husband, he is one of the BEST humans I've met. I love everything about him. He loves God, has a heart for worship and truly cares for people. I never doubt that he always has my best interest in mind and he continually puts me before himself; he's selfless in just about every way. Anything Fred pursues, he does so with excellence; he is intelligent, patient, hardworking and determined. He can always make me laugh, and he's a great cook. I'm a better person because of him, and can't picture my world without him. I know he will be a great dad, and I can't wait to see him in that role.



*Home
is where our stories begin...*