

ANTHONY + ANTHONY



HELLO

We are The Anthonys!



ANTHONY JOHN

ANTHONY THOMAS

Two Anthonys, double the love. We understand that can get confusing, you can refer to us as Anthony John and Anthony Thomas. We are so grateful that you are taking the time to learn about us and our family. This is going to be an interesting ride for all of us. We look forward to learning more about you and hopefully share how we can provide a safe and secure home for your child.

We know this is a big decision you have ahead of you. We want you to know that should you choose adoption and select our family, your baby will be loved unconditionally, celebrated, and encouraged to be his or her true self each and every day.

We are ready to grow our family and are committed to be the best parents we can be. As a part of our family, your child will be welcomed into our warm, accepting, and close-knit biological and chosen families and loved by many wonderful friends both near and far. Your child will grow up in a home rooted in love, honesty, tradition, acceptance, security, and a whole lot of fun!

We wish you peace in your decision.

All Our Best,

Anthony + Anthony

A LITTLE ABOUT US

We met watching the Capitals play hockey in the Stanley Cup playoffs while living in Washington, DC. There was an immediate connection realizing we shared not only the same first name but also the same first initial in our last names! It was an instant connection, telling stories about our families, appetites for travel, our interest in different cuisines and cooking, and our love for playing and watching sports.

Anthony John was drawn to Anthony Thomas's sense of humor and kind spirit, where Anthony Thomas immediately fell for Anthony John's competitive nature and beautiful smile. Since that meeting, we have been inseparable. The Capitals went on to win the Stanley Cup, and we won the chance to spend the rest of our lives together.

One year into our relationship, we took a huge step and moved across the country from D.C. to Chicago. We chose to buy our first place together in a neighborhood on the northside of the city. We were immediately drawn to it because of the tree lined streets and multiple parks, the diversity of the people, shops and restaurants, and walkable distance to Lake Michigan. On the weekends you can usually find us walking or biking the lakefront path or taking our pup, Phoebe, to the dog beach.

Little did we know four months after our move, the pandemic would hit, and the world would shut down! Living together in a new city through COVID brought us closer together in ways we now know prepared us for the future. While it didn't always seem that way in the moment, it was the best and fastest way to know that we were meant to be together forever.





In 2021, Anthony Thomas proposed to Anthony John in the company of friends and family at Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia. The day before we survived a crazy, freak car crash, so there was no better time than the present to promise our futures to each other. In typical “Anthony” fashion, Anthony Thomas proposed to Anthony John, placing the ring on the wrong hand! It took over 6 hours to figure it out.

We were married in Anthony John’s hometown on the Jersey Shore on October 1, 2022, during a hurricane, but it was still an amazing time with our closest family and friends! We have been through many challenges since being together - moving to new states and new homes, losses of family, and changes in careers. Facing these challenges together has made us stronger as a couple.

Our relationship is built on a foundation of love, faith, trust, honesty, adventure, family, and friends. We are committed to constant hard work, when it comes to our relationship. We trust each other and strive to be the strongest partners we can be for one another. We hope this can translate into us being great parents as well.



MEET ANTHONY *Thomas*

(FROM ANTHONY JOHN)



When I first met Anthony Thomas, I knew that he was the life of the party. There is just something that makes others gravitate toward him. He has an infectious sense of humor and personality that will have you laughing out loud. He is also a great listener who really works hard to understand and relate to those around him. He is always learning and is one of those weird people who actually enjoys going to school. He earned his Master's Degree in Elementary and Special Education and shows a real interest in helping kids understand some of the hard stuff. He does this because he genuinely cares and has an interest in others' lives and what they are going through.



IN A NUTSHELL

Anthony Thomas is a mover and a shaker, and thrives on making others smile.

EDUCATION: Communications from Ball State University and Education from DePaul University

HOBBIES: Public speaking, planning events, playing sports, traveling/exploring cities, and restaurants

WHAT MAKES HIM HAPPY: Visiting with friends and family, Mama Kim's spaghetti, and Phoebes

FAVORITE MOVIE: The Goonies, Harry Potter, and all the Mission Impossible Movies

OCCUPATION: Director of Events and Convention Management

HE WOULD GIVE YOU THE SHIRT OFF HIS BACK AND IS ALWAYS THERE FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

There is never a dull moment with Anthony Thomas as he is a lover of life and people. His view on life is extremely positive and has a talent for making even the darkest days brighter. He is organized and helps keep me focused on the bigger picture when sometimes I get into the weeds. When he isn't playing or coaching our softball team, you can find him out and about planning the next big social event. I know that he would be an amazing dad because he is already a loyal friend, dedicated son, loving brother and the best husband. Anthony Thomas is hilarious, the life of the party, and the guy everyone is comfortable talking to.

MEET ANTHONY *John*

(FROM ANTHONY THOMAS)



Have you ever met someone for the first time and feel like you've known them for years? That is Anthony John. He is kind, smart, creative, funny, and sometimes can run a bit on the late side ☺. It's a good thing, I am usually early, so we balance each other out. From the moment I met Anthony John it was a no-brainer that he was meant to be a father. He cares so much and is the perfect example of a man who embodies respect.



ANTHONY JOHN HAS A **VERY STRONG RELATIONSHIP** WITH HIS FAMILY, FRIENDS AND FAITH.

A newly licensed architect, Anthony John takes pride in hard work. He is creative and detailed. He is the guy who reads the receipt at a restaurant three times before paying. It drives me nuts, but we've never overpaid! I continue to be impressed with how he walks through life, confident, yet not too serious. He loves to draw and loves playing sports and staying active. I can already see him coaching little league and cheering as one of the kids hits a homerun or scores a goal. Any child will be lucky to have Anthony John as a father, I know I am lucky to have him as my partner.

IN A NUTSHELL

Anthony John is considerate, loyal, kind, intelligent and annoyingly great at every sport.

EDUCATION: Architecture from Virginia Tech

HOBBIES: Reading, traveling, playing and watching sports, landscaping

WHAT MAKES HIM HAPPY: Ice cream, all types of chocolate, his family, the ocean, designing our dream home

FAVORITE MOVIE: Field of Dreams

OCCUPATION: Licensed Architect



DOING WHAT WE *Love*

We learned quickly that we are very different, but at the same time, weirdly the same! We enjoy travel, whether it is together or with family and friends. We love to learn about new places, cultures, traditions, and most importantly FOOD!



We have had the opportunity to attend weddings in both Argentina and Portugal, play sports in Las Vegas, visit the vineyards in Napa Valley, and walk the Colosseum in Rome. We are tourists in our own city, frequently attending plays and musicals, exploring museums, arguing about which Chicago deep dish pizza is the best and wavering if it is okay, or not to add ketchup on the Chicago hot dog (don't do it).

We love living within walking distance to Lake Michigan, and close enough to take road trips to small towns in Wisconsin to enjoy the outdoors and create memories. We look forward to sharing these experiences with our child one day.



OUR FAMILIES



We are both fortunate to come from loving and supportive families. Both sets of parents are along on this ride with us, begging for the opportunity to add to their gaggle of grandchildren!



ANTHONY THOMAS: I am the middle child sandwiched between two sisters, Monika and Allison. Monika has four children of her own, all very accomplished as state champion soccer players and wrestlers. Allison is a veteran of the US Air Force and has two stepchildren of her own. One plays the Mellophone (a funny looking trumpet) in the Michigan State Marching Band and the other is a 7 year old who has a strong obsession with applying makeup to her father's face. We are very close and have the same goofy personality. My parents, Kim and Tony were high school sweethearts who shared a love for the Beatles and never fully understood how to ask "Alexa" to play music. We are not perfect, but we love each other unconditionally.

ANTHONY JOHN: I am the oldest child with a younger sister, Maggie and brother, Tim. Our family grew by one as our new nephew was born last summer and we couldn't be more excited. My parents Mary Lou and Mark love being grandparents and also love having us all "come home" for family gatherings and get-togethers. We love the beach and spend a lot of time there when we visit throughout the years. We all are competitive and enjoy playing sports and games but always keep the competition friendly!



OUR FRIENDS

Our friends are just as close as our own families. Earlier years of self-identification and truth telling could be difficult. Separately we built strong bonds with our forever friends and have been extremely lucky to mold them together into one core group. Anthony Thomas has been friends with his “inner circle” for more than thirty years and Anthony John is a consistent “best man” in multiple people’s lives. You will find out that our friends are our cheerleaders, mentors, and future babysitters of our child. They better give us a deal!

OUR TRADITIONS

WE BOTH COME FROM LARGE, LOVING (AND LOUD) ITALIAN FAMILIES. HAVING TRADITIONS IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT!



Holidays are not just an excuse to take off work, for us it's the perfect time to see our families. Every Easter we take a road trip to Vero Beach, Florida to hit the waves with Anthony John's side of the family. After Easter Mass we hit Bobby's for the Bobby Burger or the Scampi Grill for the spicy linguini. We end the night at Cobalt for a well-deserved dessert. Every year the group gets bigger. In 2023, we welcomed our new nephew Michael Paul to the party!

In August, we host our annual alley party behind our house. The whole neighborhood is invited, we play games, dance to music, and host a potluck. We have friends representing many cultures, so the spread is usually the highlight of the day. Last year the

neighbors rented a bouncy house (best used before the meal).

For Thanksgiving we make our way back to Vero Beach, this time combining both families. We use this time to celebrate birthdays and spoil our parents with tons of hugs, attention and beach time.

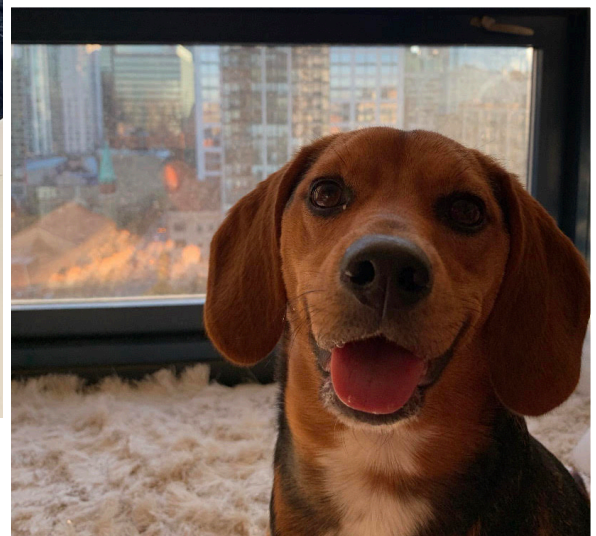
We end the year in Michigan, visiting Anthony Thomas's family for our annual pizza making competition. Dad always "wins" based on presentation, but overall taste is always a "toss-up." We watch football and our dogs run with the cows at the dairy farm next door. Family is extremely important to us, we are excited to share our traditions with our child.



←
*our annual
alley party!*
→



PHOEBES!



We began our adoption journey in March 2020 when we were lucky to find our pup at a shelter in Chicago. Phoebe “Phoebes”, or better known by our friends as Special Girl Poo Poo Head, was born in Alabama at a puppy mill and was thankfully saved by loving volunteers. Our introduction included her escaping the kennel and peeing on Anthony John’s foot. We knew then that she would be the perfect addition to our growing family.

Phoebe is part Beagle and perhaps Dachshund or Miniature Pinscher? Much like her background her personality is a mix of all things wonderful. She is a master at sniffing, a soloist in the howling choir, and star athlete sprinting and leaping over her competitors at the dog beach.

She loves all humans and would be a welcome addition to any pup party. Phoebes is a nurturer by nature, showing a special interest in babies and toddlers. There is no other dog on this planet more ready and excited to welcome a new baby to the house.



OUR HOME AND COMMUNITY

Our neighborhood of Chicago just may be one of the most magical places on earth. It is a small community in a big city. Our street is a mix of Chicago natives and transplants.

We are a short block away from our church, a grocery store, pharmacy, and a Jiffy Lube! The strip of Clark Street is home to our favorite restaurant, where they have the best sliders in town. Steps away is an arcade sports bar, a Magic Lounge, the coffee shop, and local art gallery, where local artists can sell their creations.

We live in a large two-bedroom, two-bathroom condo and are the President and “Chief of Staff” of our Homeowner’s Association (the election went uncontested). We love our home; it was the first place we bought together and didn’t leave for almost two years due to COVID. If that isn’t love, we don’t know what else is.





Our Promise to You

We will love your child unconditionally. Your child will be raised with love, safety, acceptance and support. Your child will have opportunities to experience the world and access to education. Your child will be raised to be themselves and feel safe to express themselves fully. We will teach your child values of kindness, compassion, honesty and respect for themselves and others. We will add an element of fun into everything we do. We will make sure your child will see themselves through art, books, food, culture, and community.

THANK YOU

for taking the time to read about us. If you choose adoption as the path, we would be honored to be chosen to love and cherish your child. We will raise your child with a strong sense of family and tradition. We will celebrate their background and their heritage. We will support your decision about the relationship you wish to have with us and your child. Your child will always know how selfless you were throughout this time and how your love and sacrifice led to making an adoption plan. You will always hold a very special place in our hearts and the heart of your child. No matter what decision you make, we wish nothing but the best for you and your baby.

With Love,

Anthony John & Anthony Thomas

