

Grace Michael



HELLO!

We are so honored that you have chosen to learn more about us!



We hope our love for each other and our families shines through in this profile, and you are able to get a true sense of who we are.

adoption. We would raise your child with the values and traits that we hold dear, teaching them to be a loving, kind, compassionate, and confident person. **Adoption is close to our hearts, as Michael's brother and his wife welcomed two**

Ever since falling for one another, we dreamed of starting a family and are so excited to grow that dream through

adopted children into our lives. We can honestly say that the amazing impact their children's open adoption has had on our family is unmatched, and they could not be more welcomed or loved. We promise to provide a safe and nurturing home to your child, full of happiness and stability, loving them unconditionally throughout the ups and downs. We can only imagine the level of courage and love that has brought you to this decision. Thank you a thousand times over. **If chosen, we promise your child would be constantly reminded of the love, strength, and selflessness that surrounded your decision.**

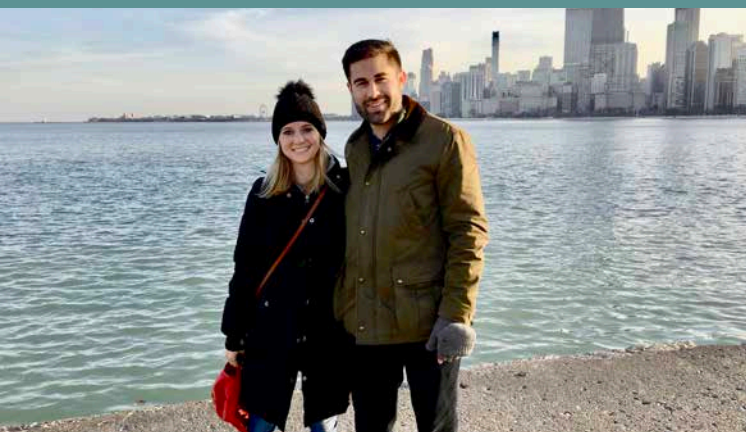


Springtime in the botanical gardens

Boat tour in Newfoundland



Exploring the Chicago lakefront



Our Story

BY GRACE

Michael and I met when we were both working at the same hospital. I was a nurse on the cardiac floor and Michael was a medical student on a month long cardiology rotation. We started talking during that time and connected over our recent travels to the south of Spain. At the end of his rotation, Michael asked me out. Unfortunately, at that time I had a boyfriend so I turned Michael down! Fast forward two years later and we met again on a different floor in the same hospital. I was single then and Michael had the courage to ask again. After our first date we both knew that we had found the one.

When I first met Grace, the thing that most stuck out to me (after of course noticing her beautiful smile and big blue eyes) was how compassionate and considerate she is. She always took the extra step caring for people in the hospital, even in extraordinarily challenging situations or when it inconvenienced her most. When it came to planning our wedding (in the middle of COVID!), rather than thinking about herself, she was focused on how our family and friends would feel during the events of our big day. Grace's love languages include acts of service and quality time, which really shine when she is around loved ones. We both have large families, most of whom live nearby. At family gatherings Grace is always playing hostess and caring for the needs of our 10 nieces and nephews (all under the age of 10), entertaining them with games or consoling them and being there to help them back up when they fall. Grace is comfortable curling up on the couch to read her favorite book or watch a new show, but she also has an adventurous side. She has a talent for planning small parties with friends, weekend getaways, or even big trips for the two of us. It all stems from her desire to care for and spend quality time with loved ones.

Grace's compassion, considerate nature, and knack for adventure constantly remind me how lucky I am to be her partner as well as how great of a mother she will be.



Hiking the rugged coastline of Nova Scotia

About Grace

BY MICHAEL



Biking to the beach

Sidewalk artwork on the 4th of July





Fly fishing on the river

Cribbage around the campfire is a favorite summer pastime



A FEW OF GRACE'S



Favorites

Dessert

Strawberry shortcake

Vacation spot

Scotland

Seasonal activity

Spring mushroom hunting

Hobby

Baking cookies

Dream job

Full time dog walker

Ice cream flavor

Grasshopper

Animal

Can't decide between bunnies or dogs

Children's book

Where the Wild Things Are





About Michael

BY GRACE



Michael is everything I've ever wanted in a husband. I had never dated anyone who was so upfront and confident about their feelings. He let me know very early on how he felt about me and that he wanted to spend our lives together, even though he was moving out of state just 5 months after we met. Although it is cliché, when you know you truly do know. I feel very lucky that fate brought us back together and to now be spending life with him. **He has a quiet confidence that reassures you everything will be okay and he will take care of you. I see this in his interactions with his patients, friends, and family. He is hardworking, creative, encouraging, and even-tempered.** He makes me want to be a better person every day. He entertains all of my crazy home improvement projects, and usually ends up finishing them with more detail and precision than I ever could. He jumps on my crazy ideas—like going on a several month long road trip through the Canadian wilderness while living in a vintage 1967 camper—with even more enthusiasm than me. He even welcomes all the foster dogs I bring home unannounced and treats them like gold. Michael is constantly finding new hobbies, from tennis to woodworking to fly-fishing, and I'm amazed at his natural ability to be good at all of them.

Michael is a very special person who makes everyone feel like they are special themselves. I feel grateful for him everyday and I know he will make a wonderful and caring father.

Fixing up our vintage camper before a long roadtrip





Fly fishing for trout



Enjoying fresh Maine lobster at our favorite spot

A FEW OF MICHAEL'S
Favorites

Dessert
Cheesecake

Vacation spot
Glacier National Park

Ice cream flavor
Butter pecan

Children's book
Fantastic Mr. Fox

Author
John Steinbeck

Seasonal activity
Platform tennis (it's a version of outdoor winter tennis)

Hobby
Eating Grace's baked goods

Dream job
Photographer for the National Parks

Lego time!



Our Home

We recently moved back home to the Midwest after several years spent in different areas of the country for Michael's medical training—from large cities to a small town by the ocean.

We are so happy to be back home and close to both of our families.

Our good boy Charlie

Beekeeping at the farm



In the last year we bought our first home and have enjoyed making it our own. We have a large yard with many maple and pine trees, and even a vegetable garden! Grace has plans to expand that garden from the tomatoes and beans we grew last year to include cut flowers next summer. Our dog, Charlie, goes nuts over the many deer, rabbits, and squirrels that visit our yard looking for a snack near the apple and pear trees. The wood burning fireplace in our den has been a favorite spot to stay warm during this past snowy winter. We live in a suburb of a larger metropolitan area that has many outdoor concerts and cultural festivals every summer. There are also numerous lakes and hiking trails nearby that we like to visit. Charlie gets no shortage of fun! **During summer and fall weekends we often visit Grace's grandparents' cabin up north near the lake, or her parent's hobby farm.** Our favorite farm activities include mushroom hunting, beekeeping, and tending the pumpkin patch which yields a big crop most years. Many extended family members attend the fall pumpkin harvest, a tradition each October.





WHAT WE
DO FOR

Work

After years of studying and a busy work schedule due to his medical training, **Michael now enjoys working as a dermatologist with regular hours.** He's excited to spend his newly found free time enjoying his hobbies and raising a family. Grace's older brother passed away from a heart condition as a young adult, and she has since had a passion for caring for patients with heart problems. **She now works part time as a cardiology nurse practitioner and loves her work-life balance but is excited to take on the roll of full-time mom.**

Blue Ridge Mountain hikes



Skiing and snowboarding in Lake Tahoe



Soaking up the Florida sun



Hobbies

We love fishing, camping, and traveling, having explored several foreign countries and many states in the US.

We make sure to bring our dog Charlie with us whenever we can! There is nothing better to us than cooking food and playing cards by the campfire after a long day of exploring. We both have of a love of food and sometimes even plan our travels around the local cuisine we want to try. **We can't wait to share these experiences as we grow our family!**



OUR Family



Michael's side of the family

We live about 15 minutes away from Grace's parents and her sister and family.

Grace's mom is known as Mimi to her nephews and she loves to spoil them with donuts, play time, and new toys. Grace's dad is the comedian of the family and is continually on the move; he is always up for a road trip up north or to the farm. He loves volunteering for recess and lunch duty at our nephew's elementary school, just to be able to spend a little more time with his grandson. We often have a Sunday brunch where Mimi makes her famous cinnamon rolls.

Michael's parents, two brothers and their families live a short drive away and family get togethers are the weekly norm.

Our eight nieces and nephews on Michael's side also include two adopted children that love playing with their siblings and cousins. Typically we have a rotation of which house will host dinner or a brunch on the weekend. When the weather is nice, we are usually outside on the patio with one of the brothers grilling while the kids are playing together in the yard. Grandma is known for her delicious pies and brings them to every special occasion. Grandpa is always the center of whatever game the children are playing at the time. Eventually he tires out and needs to sit down to rest or nap on the couch, but after a short break he is back in the middle of the next activity with the kids.



The annual pumpkin harvest with Grace's family

Testing our winter sports skills while curling on the ice



Christmas with Grace's family





Being tourists in Chicago, the first city we called home



IN Closing



Thank you so much for taking the time to look through our profile! We think so highly of you for making this incredibly selfless decision, and are honored that you are considering us in your adoption plan. We have so much love for each other, our family, and friends that we want nothing more than to share that love with a child. **We hope to have an open adoption to allow our child to develop a sense of understanding and confidence in their identity as they grow older and will do our best to honor any level of openness that you choose during this process.**

Please know we are thinking of you and praying for you as you make this decision. You will always be loved and valued as our child's birth parent.

We wish you a healthy pregnancy, a safe delivery, and that you find peace and take comfort in whatever decision you make.



Thank You

FOR LEARNING ABOUT US!

