



Kathy and Ron Bauer



Dear Birthmother / Birthparents,

What an incredible thing you are doing. The decision to place your child in the best possible home must be very difficult, and clearly shows your immense love for your child. It is our dream to be a family with several children to share our love and lives. We were so happy when our son Andrew joined our family through adoption in January of 2002. He has brought us much joy. We believe that it is important for Andrew to have a brother or sister to grow up with, and we hope this may be possible with your help. Please allow us to tell you a little bit about ourselves...

We have been happily married for 9 years, have successful careers, and approach our life together as a loving team. We both come from big families, and are blessed to live in a safe community with many good friends. We enjoy many outdoor activities such as bike riding, going to the beach, camping, and skiing. In addition to our family and friends, we also have a chance to share our love with other couples through our work in the Engaged Encounter marriage preparation program.



About Kathy

Kathy grew up in rural Nebraska with her mom, 3 sisters, and her brother. She was raised on a farm and was an active 4-H club member, raising animals such as cattle and sheep. She also enjoyed sewing, baking, playing piano and growing up in the country atmosphere. In 1989, Kathy moved to California to be near her older sister and family.

Several years ago, Kathy started her own home-based business as a Mary Kay Cosmetics consultant. Kathy loves that her Mary Kay business allows her to be home full-time to care for our children.



Kathy and Andrew share a moment together

About Ron



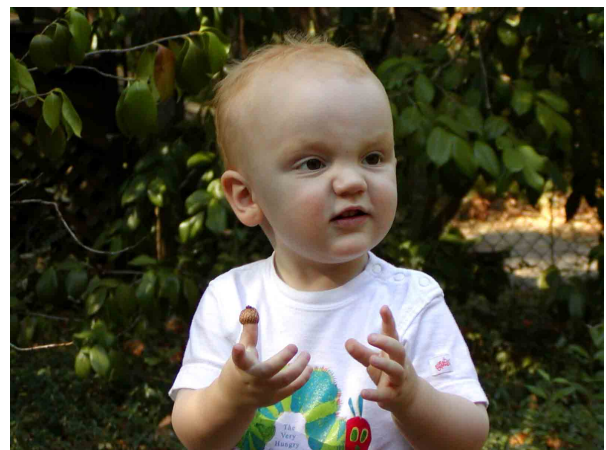
Ron making Thanksgiving turkey at our home

Ron grew up in Arizona with his parents, 2 brothers, and 2 sisters. Ron was raised in the city, but has always loved the great outdoors. Hiking, mountain biking, skiing—these are the many activities he grew up enjoying. Ron also loved music, and played guitar in a neighborhood rock band when he was in high school.

Ron has worked for one of the leading electronics companies for the last 18 years, starting as an intern while attending college in Arizona. He worked his way up through the company, and in 1991, Ron's company offered him a great job opportunity in California. Ron now manages his own group of engineers, and also helps set the future direction for his company.

About Andrew

Andrew was born in January 2002, and joined our family when he was 2 days old. Similarities between our backgrounds and Andrew's birthparents brought us together. We are blessed to have Andrew in our lives. We often hear friends say that Andrew is a fun, easy-going and a happy child, and we agree! Andrew is very curious, and enjoys exploring new things. We enjoy guiding his exploration. Andrew is very social and enjoys the company of other children and adults. We think Andrew is also looking forward to having a brother or sister to grow up with.



Andrew finds an acorn in our back yard



The Two of Us

We love to tell the story of how we met. It was a hot day in August in 1992 at a Habitat for Humanity workday. We were scraping paint and repairing a home in one of the older neighborhoods in Sacramento. We hit it off from the start. We loved being together and were married in 1994, to be together forever.



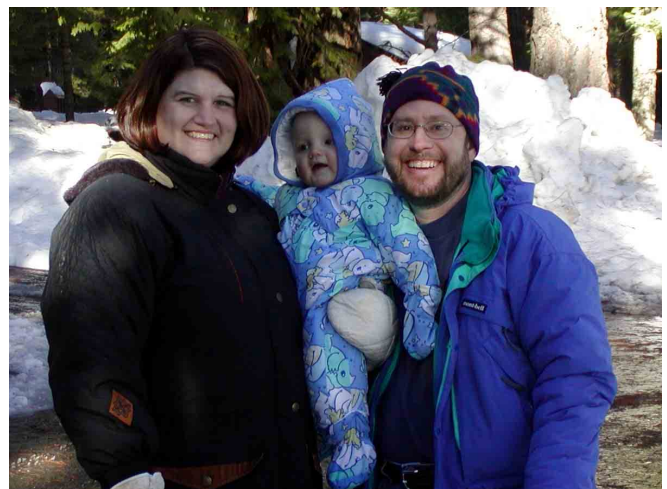
At our favorite place, the Northern California coast



Families from the Married Couples Group get together for special events

We both love the outdoors. We are lucky to be so close to both the mountains and the ocean. We like to go backpacking, hiking, skiing, camping and relaxing on the beach. It's been fun to share our love of the outdoors with Andrew.

Our Catholic faith and our community are important to us. Shortly after we were married, we joined a group for newly married couples at our church. We get together for camping trips, days in the park, to celebrate birthdays and holidays, and just to be there for each other. Over time, these friendships have deepened and the couples have become “families” with many babies and children now part of our group. As we have built our family through adoption, the group has been a great support for us since several of the couples have adopted children too. We have always been connected to our community. One of the other ways we stay connected and give back to our community is by presenting workshops and helping engaged couples prepare for marriage. This has been very rewarding for us, and also helps strengthen our own marriage too.



Playing in the snow at Big Trees State Park



Our Families & Vacations

We also love traveling. Since Kathy grew up in rural Nebraska, and Ron grew up in Arizona, we often travel back home for fun-filled family adventures, like the hay-rides in Nebraska or golfing in Arizona.

Each year we travel to Nebraska to visit Kathy's family. One of the summer highlights involves the "Fitzgerald Family Bike Ride", where as many as 100 relatives and friends ride across rural Iowa on Father's Day. It's a great time for relatives to spend a fun-filled weekend together. We also visit Ron's family often in Arizona where we barbecue, swim, bowl, and golf.

We feel very lucky to have the love of many friends and big families.



Getting ready to start at the Fitzgerald Family Bike Ride



Bauer family reunion



Family fun at the pool.



Relaxing on the lake in our friend's boat

We have so much respect for you as you make this decision. Please feel free to contact us to get to know us more. We can be reached through Adoption Connection toll-free at 1-800-972-9225 or by email at kfbauer@yahoo.com.

