

Erik & Angel



Dear Birth-Parent,

We're filled with anticipation and excitement, because we're building our family through adoption. Like you, we're wondering if we might be a part of your plan. The goal of our hearts is to bless a child with a home and to bless our family with a child. We've tried by our words and photos to allow you a peek into our lives.

Please, spend some time with us between these pages. Who knows? Maybe you and we are the answer to each other's dreams.

Please know our thoughts are with you on your journey. We hope you find peace in your decisions and know you'll choose great parents to raise your child.

~Erik & Angel~

US



Erik & Angel



Set of 6, Lt to Rt: Being silly at our wedding. Dancing at a wedding. On an Alpaca farm. Our honeymoon. Counting toes. Being silly at home. Rt: Cats Paul & Non



*We're just waiting
for a little one to fill our hearts...*





Erik's Family

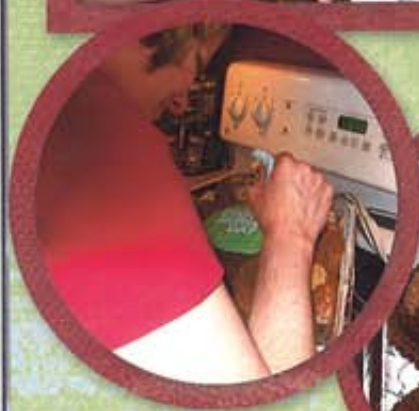
Erik's family lived in the Middle East when he was a child. They're fond of one-humped camels, hummus, pita bread, & world culture. Erik's sister lives in Minneapolis. His brother lives in VT. Erik's parents only live an hour away and are (im)patiently awaiting the arrival of their 1st grandchild.

Erik's paternal grandma (seated center, in blue) lives an hour and a half away from us, in Erik's parents' hometown. Erik's dad only has one brother, but family gatherings usually include Erik's dad's cousins, their children and grandchildren, too.

Most of Erik's mom's siblings live near the family's original farmstead. The family camps together at the homestead to celebrate the Fourth of July.



*Saturdays with
Erik's parents*



When Erik's parents visit, his mom and Angel do projects, shop, & just hang out. Pics: Erik's mom & Angel testing out recipes for a baby shower for our friends, adoptive parents, whose baby came home in May.



Erik & his dad also help with projects at home, but they really like anything that involves maps, planes, or sailboats. We also all love the zoo and a good meal together.



Paul and Nona always liked to play with their toys, get "rubbies", and watch trains and birds on TV with the family. However, it was with great sadness that we had to say good-bye to our beautiful Paul in July. He was a very sweet kitty who was very patient with visiting children. We're so sorry he did not live to meet our baby, because he loved babies most of all. His sister Nona and we miss him very much.



Angel's Family

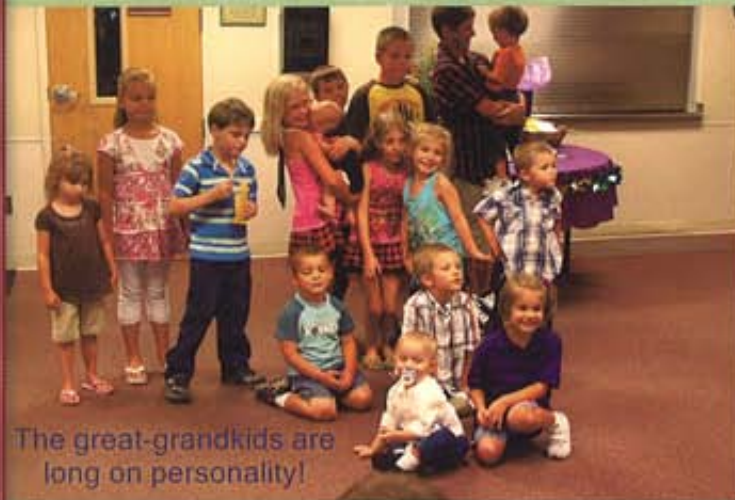


Angel's family is originally from MN. However, her parents now live in CA, and her sisters live in OK and TX. We're happy to be able to combine our love of family with our love of traveling.

6-year-old Niece L. loves projects. 3-year-old Nephew D. loves cars and smiles. Twin Niece and Nephew were born in May. Twin Nephew is really laid back, and Twin Niece is more "expressive."



Angel's mom's extended family lives in MN. Angel's grandma passed away last year. She was very excited about our plans to adopt, because she was competing with friends to see who would have the most great-grandkids (13 and counting).



The great-grandkids are long on personality!

Angel's dad's parents had 7 children. The oldest uncle, his kids & grandkids live in MN; the rest of the family is mainly in WY and CO. All but 3 cousins & their children made it to Angel's grandpa's 90th birthday party last year.



Angel & her paternal grandfather share the same September birthday and have always been *extremely close*. We visit him one to three times a year in WY but wish we could see him more often.

Getting Ready for Baby...



Right, Angel's mom painting the nursery; roses from Erik to Angel inspired the orange colors. Below, Erik assembling the crib.



History in the Making

...is a Family Affair.



Our moms and Angel's sisters have been helping us quilt, sew, cross-stitch, woodwork, and collect things for baby. Below: Angel arranging the nursery.

Family is Forever



Anytime we need something we just call or email Erik's parents, and they show up at our door.



Angel's family also knows how to "pitch in" even though they live faraway.

Family support

For new babies, Angel's mom and the sisters rotate visits to help out. In July, it was our turn to help take care of the twins and the house so their mom could catch up on sleep. We also made sure Niece L. got some one-on-one time with each parent and some spoiling from us.



Adoption Play Group

- Fun times, great parenting
- role models, friends, & last
- minute babysitters.

& Parents Support Group

Top: Christmas cookie baking while babysitting a 5-year-old member of our adoption play group.

Right: Two families from our group joined us for a spur-of-the-moment pizza party at our place.



We Love Family and Travel,

*Our Favorite
Things*



Above: Hiking with Angel's dad in CA.
Rt.: Jellyfish at the aquarium in Monterrey, CA.

Our Dream Vacation: A family
reunion cruise to the Galápagos
Islands, in Ecuador.



and Water, Earth, & Sky.

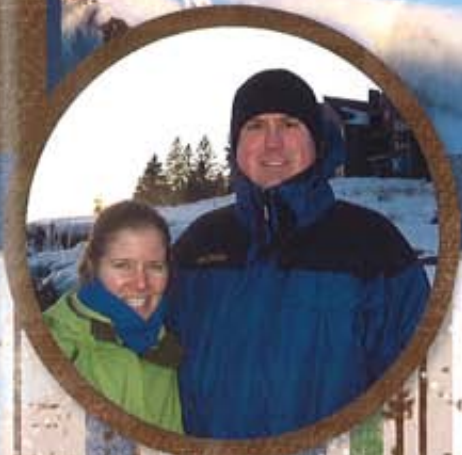
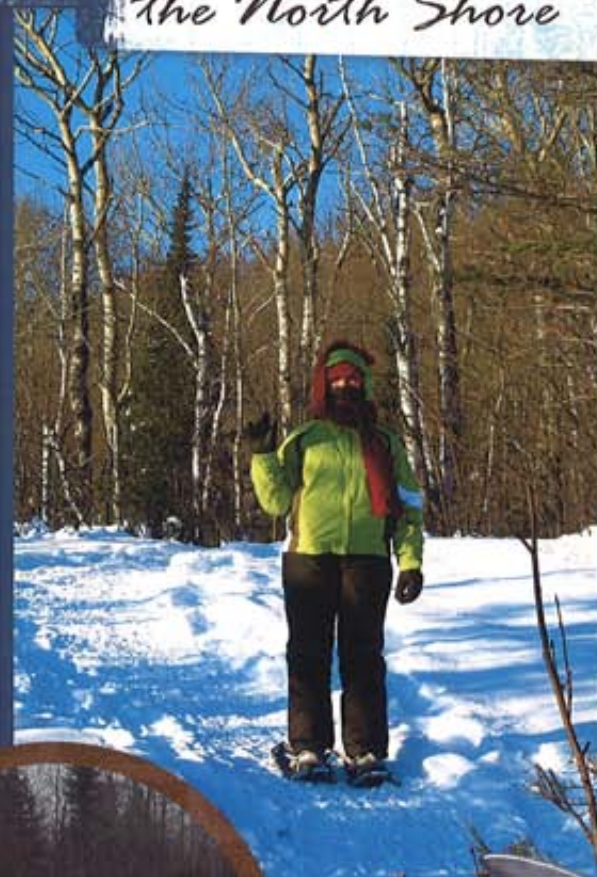


Angel's mom's
family's 25th
annual 3-day
canoe trip



Main pic: Feeding turtles with Niece L., a.k.a. "Fluffy the Cat," at the aquarium in OK. Circles, top down: Angel, her mom, and Niece L. / Angel with her best friend from high school and 3 of her kids. / Last 2: Erik and Niece L.

*Annual trip to
the North Shore*



Lake Superior, 1 condo,
6 college friends, home-
cooked meals, roaring
fires, swimming & winter
sports. And 1 little boy in
need of a playmate.

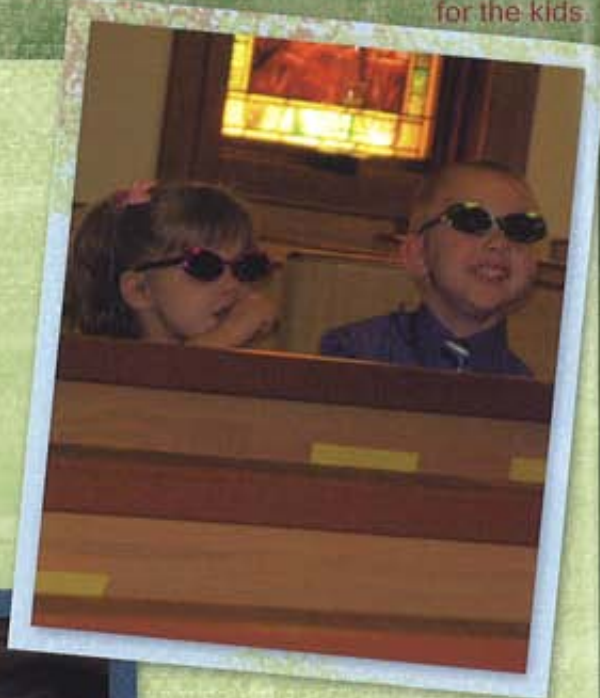
More
about us.

Erik has a super calm demeanor around children. The first time Angel saw him hold a baby--like a natural-born dad who'd been doing it forever--well, let's just say it was love at first sight.



Erik also loves photography, and the cats are looking forward to him having someone else to star in his photos.

Angel also has a sense of humor and has come to family weddings armed with sun-glasses for the kids.



Erik appreciates Angel's knowledge & experience with children from her prior years as a nursery caregiver and pre-school & middle school teacher. He likes that she is thoughtful and nurturing when caring for children.

Fast Facts



*Both born in MN.

*Both lived abroad. Erik in the Middle East (ages 2 - 15). Angel in Latin America (during & after college).

*Both sentimental. In 2007, we took a cruise (above with Angel's cousin & his wife, who is also Angel's oldest friend) on the same ship, in the same stateroom as our honeymoon.

*Erik is a structural engineer and works on energy projects, like windmills.

*Angel works for a branch of state government.

*Favorite states to visit (repeatedly):

WY (Yellowstone, above) and NM (view from Sandia Mountain, left).

*Things we'd like to see: Galápagos Islands, Hoover Dam, Machu Picchu, and Panama Canal, *but most importantly ... the face of our first child.*



*Looking forward to making
more memories as a family.*

*Thank you for considering us in your
adoption-parenting plan for your child.
We cannot begin to understand all you
must be going through, but we are so
very grateful for you.*

