



TODD  
♥ & ♥  
NICOLE

# OUR FAMILY



ZAVYER

TODD  
♥ & ♥  
NICOLE

RHYS

# OUR STORY



We found each other in 2010. We began talking and realized that not only had we been working across the road from each other for the last four years, but we also lived just five minutes away. We had a large Catholic wedding in 2013, with many family and friends present. All four sets of grandparents were/are married for 50 to 60+ years, and both sets of parents are married over 40 years. The stability of having such strong role models help us grow as a couple. We honeymooned in South Carolina and were blessed with our boys in 2017 and 2019.

We strongly believe building a strong family includes a strong relationship between us as a couple. We find time to enjoy the cultural arts and other local events on our own as a couple as well. Again, we have an incredible support system that helps care for our boys when we take time for ourselves.

Throughout our years together we have traveled all across Michigan, Florida, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Tennessee, Canada, New York, and many places together. We are excited to travel and explore more with our family as it grows



NICOLE



Nicole was born in Michigan's upper peninsula, but spent most of her childhood in Ohio. She had a busy childhood. She ran cross country and track in junior high and high school. Her family was very involved in wrestling. Her Dad coached wrestling teams for over 30 years. She grew up spending winter weekends at tournaments. Starting playing with her My Little Ponies in the bleachers, to helping work scoring tables, to eventually joining the team in high school. She has already shared her love of the sport with Zavier, and looks forward to Rhys joining this year. She was also very involved in music through high school, she was in the band, playing clarinet and tenor saxophone.

She moved to Mid Michigan in high school and has been in the area ever since. Nicole has a kind and generous heart. She is constantly caring for people through her work and home life. She went to a small community college for her associates degree. She now works at a local hospital as a Sonographer, performing ultrasounds. She loves taking care of patients, being able to hold their hands through hard times or listening ear they need a safe place to share their emotions. It is always flattering to hear one of our boys tell people that their Mama helps keep people safe at her work. Nicole's schedule is flexible and she is able to be out of work in time to pick the kids up from school.

She loves cooking for her family. Some of the family favorites are chicken soup, alfredo roll ups, and beef stew. The boys enjoy trying to help with cooking and she looks forward to helping teach them more as they grow. Nicole loves reading, she has tried very hard to pass this along to the kids. Most of her free time is spent finding adventures to take the kids on, or watching them at their various events. She loves being a mom and watching her kids grow.



TODD

Todd was born and raised right in Mid Michigan. Todd comes from a large close knit family that took me by surprise from when we started dating. One of our first dates involved a family birthday. I had no idea what I was in for but they were extremely inviting. Todd had a motivated sense from the start, he was doing a complete rebuild of his home. Todd loves to stay active; running, biking, swimming, skating, bowling, softball, and hockey. He always makes time for the boys and tries to involve them in any work he is doing, such as building bird houses or piggy banks for the kids. He loves to sit with them to play, read, or build something. Todd is also the baker of the family and the boys love helping add ingredients as they bake something yummy. He has a bachelor's degree and works in technology at a local university.



# ZAVYER

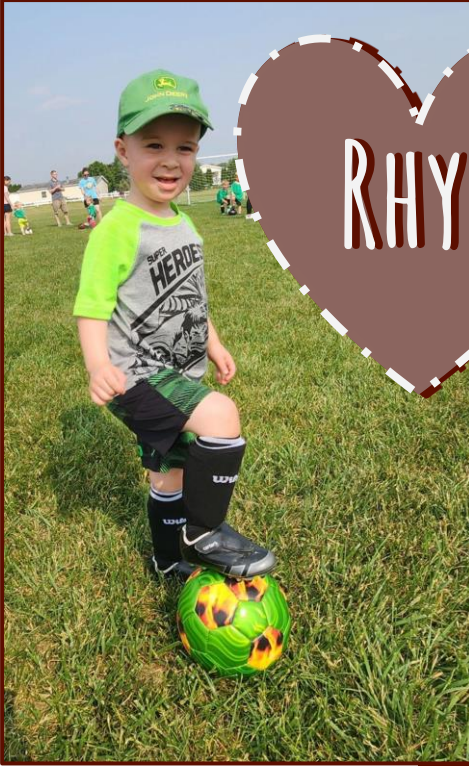


Zavyer, age seven, is our oldest son. He is in second grade at a local private school. He is a social butterfly and he will chat away to everyone he meets. He loves asking questions and sharing his knowledge with others. He excels at his schooling. He is learning Spanish in school, which he enjoys to quiz others he comes along.

He has a tight knit group of friends both at school and some in our community. He likes to be involved in things in the area. This last year he tried his hand at dance, soccer, swimming, basketball, wrestling and t-ball. He loves trying new things and meeting new people.

He has a well-loved stuffed animal "Baby Penguin" who is another member of our family. Zavyer is an excellent big brother. He enjoys playing with Rhys, and his younger cousins. He looks forward to having another little sibling.





Rhys, age four, is our youngest son. Rhys is full of adventure and energy. He is excited to start kindergarten this fall with his big brother. He is quickly making his own friends and loves it. This last year Rhys was involved in swim, dance/tumbling, and soccer. He also loves playing other sports with his brother and is excited to be old enough to be able to play this year.

Rhys loves playing with his cousins at Grandma's house. He is a very sweet boy and we look forward to watching him grow this year. Rhys has been asking for a baby of his own, since his grandmother has been watching a baby. He is very gentle and is a very good helper at taking care of the baby. He is looking forward to the role of "big brother."



# OUR LIFESTYLE



We are a very active household. During the school year we are busy helping the boys to discover their passions. Our summer nights off are spent exploring new playgrounds, working on our garden, going for a swim, bike riding, meeting up with family or friends. The winter nights we can be found playing out in the snow: building forts, sledding, making snow penguins. Rainy days are spent playing board games, building lego sets, or watching a family movie. Weekends we track down local activities: going to minor league baseball games, family fun events, children museums, zoos, and going to church. Every night ends with storytime and cuddles.



# FAMILY & FRIENDS

# WHAT MAKES US HAPPY



Todd is one of five children and all of his parents, siblings, nieces, nephews live within ten minutes. Beyond that he has many aunts, uncles, a grandmother, first and second cousins all in the neighborhood. Our children are lucky enough to go to their grandparents house while we are working and spend time and play with cousins. They are not only taken care of while we work, they are also loved. Grandma bakes with them and teaches them to make jelly and applesauce. They work in the garden, pick fruit, and they love hanging out while we work. With Todd's family being so close it is not uncommon to have Sunday night suppers.

Nicole has two brothers and several nieces and nephews. They live further away, but we love visiting when we can. Nicole's parents are only a short drive. It is not uncommon to meet up with them for a visit, sometimes the boys get to stay over and have adventures with their grandparents. They go on tractor rides, have bonfires, play games, go to parks, help build projects with Papa and get to help out at church. Nicole's extended family is much more spread out (Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, South Carolina, etc) but both sides get together at least once a year to visit.

# WHY ADOPTION?

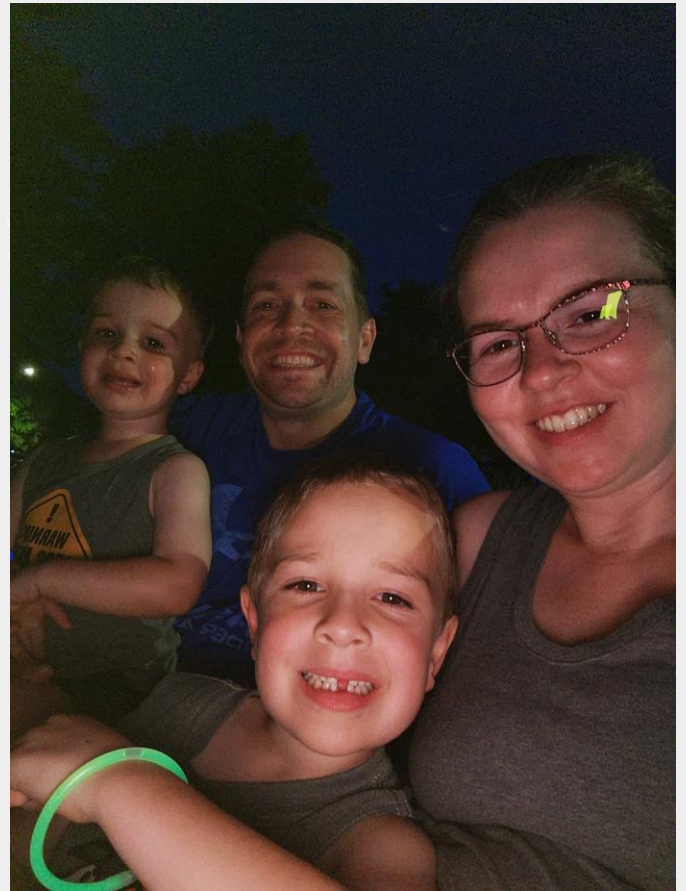
We can no longer have biological children. We have two beautiful, loving boys, however, our family does not feel complete. We have dreamed of having another child, we know they are out there waiting for us. We have more love to give and we know there is another child that is meant to be with our family. We leaned toward adoption as there are adoptive children on both sides of our family. We feel this is the right path to complete our family.



# OUR PROMISE

## Our promises to a child

- Help them follow their passion
- Offer them opportunities to excel in their lives
- Support them through their good times and their struggles
- Help them to be good, honest, and hardworking
- Love them, be their safe place in life



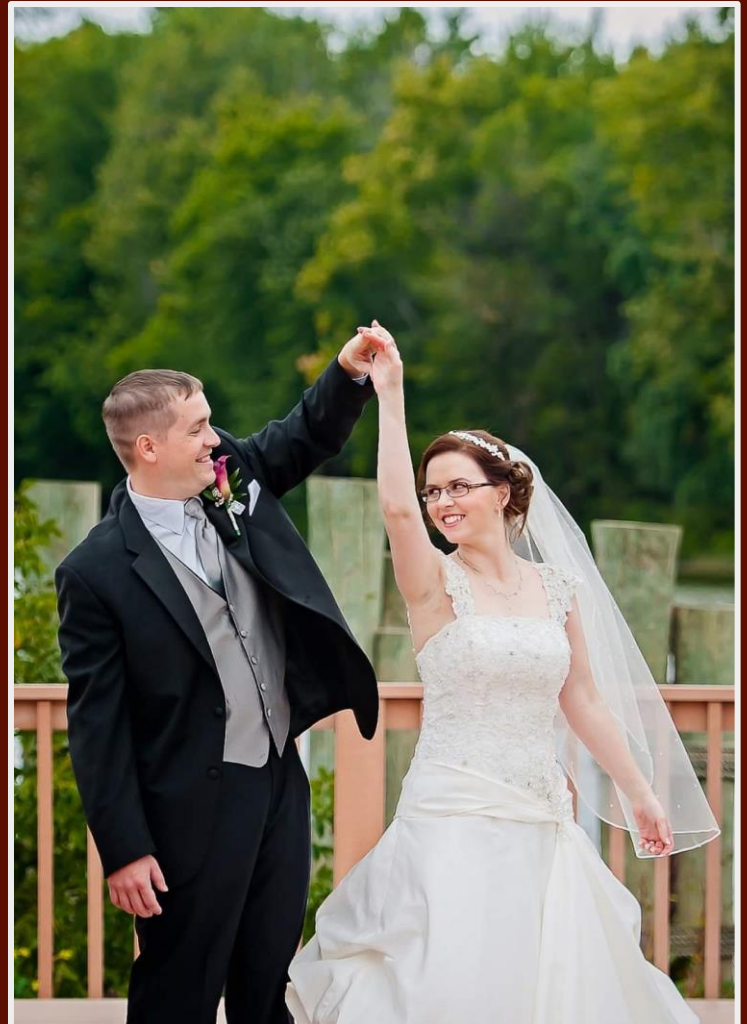
# TRADITIONS

Paczki making, Christmas pajamas, Christmas cookie baking, New Years Day Hayride, Thanksgiving, Family reunion, Christmas gatherings, Sunday Suppers and more!



# OUR HOME

We live in a rural area that Todd and his family have been in for generations. We have many family members within five minutes of our home and are constantly visiting. Our home is a four bedroom ranch with plenty of room to play. Our yard is almost two acres that allows for the kids to run around until their hearts content and allows for them to have the space to explore and practice their favorite sports, soccer and baseball.



# OUR HOME



Our home is full of books. Our children have a love for reading. Reading is an important practice in our home. Not only for development, but for valuable family quality time. We have been reading to our children since they were born and each night we snuggle up and read as a family at bedtime.



Our home is nicely placed between three small cities that offer us a variety of options for things to do. In the summer the kids partake in various camps: cooking, baking, sports, building. We also have yearly memberships to the local zoo and have used that to visit others throughout the state. Zavier loves his penguins. We enjoy taking our kids on walks up and down the road, taking bikes to any of the local trails or kayaking the rivers when we want something a little more relaxing. In the winters we purchase memberships that allow for the kids to take swim lessons and enjoy open swims. The kids love the snow. They enjoy helping to shovel the driveway and building snow forts with all that snow. There are several local hills to visit, as well, to get their sledding in.





Thank you for taking the time to get to know our family. We wish you the best in your decisions. We would love to meet you and learn more about you.

