



Cort & Charley



Hello! We are Charley and Cort. It is our dream to have a family of our own. We want to provide our child(ren) with an amazing home that is full of stability, culture, adventure, education, and love.

We greatly admire your strength and compassion in considering adoption. We respect the love and care you are placing in choosing a family. We are grateful for the opportunity to tell you more about ourselves. We hope that this letter will show you who we are and the loving parents we hope to be.

Values That We Will Teach Our Children

- **Kindness...be kind to others!**
- **Learn... something new every day!**
- **Loyalty and Family**
- **Independence...it's important to not be scared and to try new things. Live life to the fullest!**
- **Humbleness...always respect others and be willing to learn!**

How we met

(by Cort)

We met in October of 2008. We were both downtown Minneapolis for separate engagements. Charley left early and, while walking home, I stopped her to ask if she was alright. After that, we hung out and talked for the rest of the night. The next day Charley texted me, “do you miss me yet?” and the rest is history! We dated for two years before getting engaged. We got married in October 2012.



Why we chose *adoption*

We have always hoped that we would be blessed with children to add to our family. For many years we tried to have our own children. Our friends had kids that are now young; we had the honor of being a big part of them being raised. It was one of the biggest joys in our life. While we are unable to have our own biological children, we know that it is not just biology that makes a parent. We can't wait to open our home, to get to raise kids, and show them how special they are to us.

THINGS WE LOVE TO DO TOGETHER

Both of us are avid adventurers. When given the opportunity to try something new comes up, we tend to jump at it- whether it's visiting Europe or getting to try a new sport. Anything that involves being on or near water is high on the list of things we enjoy, even if it's sitting by a bonfire by the lake. Our dogs are a big part of our life, and they get to be a big part of our adventures as well.



MEET CHARLEY

FACTS ABOUT ME

Occupation: Logistics and Finance

Siblings: One older brother

Silly Obsession: I absolutely love collecting shoes, even though I don't wear many of them!

Hobbies/Interests: Reading is my number one hobby, but fishing is a close second. I also love camping with my dogs.

Personality: Outgoing and optimistic...I enjoy curling up on the couch with just my family and reading for hours. At any given time, I'm up for trying new things no matter what it is.



Season: Fall

Musician: The Used

Color: Seafoam Green

TV Show: Gilmore Girls

Food: Short Ribs

Ice Cream: Phish Food by Ben & Jerry's

SOME of MY FAVORITES THINGS

Cartoon Character: Morty from Rick and Morty

Sport: Pickleball

Exercise: Running

Time of Day: Morning

Holiday: Thanksgiving

Candy: Gummy Bears



5 RANDOM FACTS ABOUT ME

ONE My parents live in Punta Mita, Mexico, for most of the year.

TWO In a very strange series of events, I got to drive a Ferrari from England across Europe to Monaco.

THREE Animals keep me grounded. When I feel overwhelmed, they help me to relax and get perspective on life.

FOUR Chicago is my favorite city in the USA. Their pizza is the BEST pizza and people who say NY's is better are wrong.

FIVE While working at a horse barn, I got to help birth four horses and experience how amazing meeting a new foal is.

MEET CORT



FACTS ABOUT ME

Occupation: Director of Surgical Solutions

Siblings: One younger brother

Silly Obsession: Learning new languages! I have recently decided that no matter what, I'm going to learn a second language because I want to be able to raise my child bilingual.

Hobbies/Interests: Fishing...I love going offshore fishing. Travelling...I am always up for visiting or seeing a new place or trying a new cuisine.

Personality: Extremely patient, very outgoing, and personable...I love to learn new things.

Color: Blue

Season: Fall

Vacation: Weekend at a cabin

Sport: Fishing

TV Show: Letterkenny

Candy: 100 Grand Bar

SOME of MY FAVORITES THINGS

Musicians: Bad Religion

Exercise: Downhill Skiing

Cartoon Character: Bart Simpson

Food: Chow Mein

Time of Day: Evening

Holiday: Christmas



Cort & his brother

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RANDOM FACTS ABOUT ME

ONE Learning is my favorite thing in life.

TWO While I will eat almost anything, I can't stand pickles!

THREE Generally speaking, if it's broken, I'm going to try to fix it. Sometimes that works out and other times it doesn't!

FOUR I learned how to drive a boat when I was six years old; my dad needed someone to load the pontoon on the trailer.

FIVE My paternal grandma is 97 years old, and her parents were both over 100 years old. I am incredibly close to my grandma who constantly reminds me how much I am like my dad.

Cort talks about Charley

Charley is a bookworm who adores animals. Sometimes, she can be quirky; it's the cutest thing ever. Her cooking is AMAZING. Anytime I come up with a hairbrained idea, she will roll her eyes and say let's try it. That willingness to try anything has allowed us to visit some crazy places and try some crazy things but we've always had fun doing it.



She loves with every bone in her body. It's her nature to protect without a second thought, but she also understands how important it is for children to get to experience dangerous things in a safe environment. With that in mind, she won't helicopter when they need to try something as long as they aren't physically endangering themselves. Instead, she will support them and help them learn what they like and don't like doing.



**Charley being silly
at Home Depot**



Charley and her cousin's daughter



Charley talks about Cort

I have never met someone so loyal, dedicated, and driven as Cort. He wants a family and works diligently to ensure we will be able to provide for our family when that time comes. He will stop at nothing to protect our family which is something he has done that for me for years. He is funny, creative, and adventurous. He can be a pushover, and I don't believe that once he has kids that will change.



Cort is going to be the best father in the world. He is firm and will be hard at times although that isn't because he is mean; it is because he wants to teach practicality. Our kids will learn they can do anything, and he will help create an amazing adventurous life and provide a great future. He is very encouraging and makes sure people know there is nothing that they can't do.



Cort teaching Addy how to fish- she is a friend's daughter who we have known since she was little



Cort found a big boy toy!

Where We Live



We live Florida! Our home is a restored 100-year-old house in a cute little neighborhood. We have multiple parks nearby including one on the water, one with a basketball court, and two dog parks. Every day, dozens of neighbors stroll by with kids, dogs, and strollers. Kids ride bikes and scooters all over the neighborhood as well as play different sports at the local parks. We are local to many museums, bookstores, and a zoo complete with giraffes.

Meet Our Dogs



Tyrannosaurus Rex is the goofball of our family who loves absolutely everyone. Our neighbors' kids think it is hilarious to feed the dinosaur; he thinks the kids are his to take care of. He is the only pet allowed on our bed because he moans if he gets cold and we don't let him. Basically, he's a giant baby.



Ellie has been in our family for 13 years. When we first got her, she was a rescue that someone had left behind in a barn. Her fur makes her incredibly soft, and she loves kids.



Stan loves to crawl into the lap of a crying human so that he can hug them and take care of them. We got Stan when we were living on a farm in Minnesota. He was supposed to be a hunting dog but ended up being a cupcake.

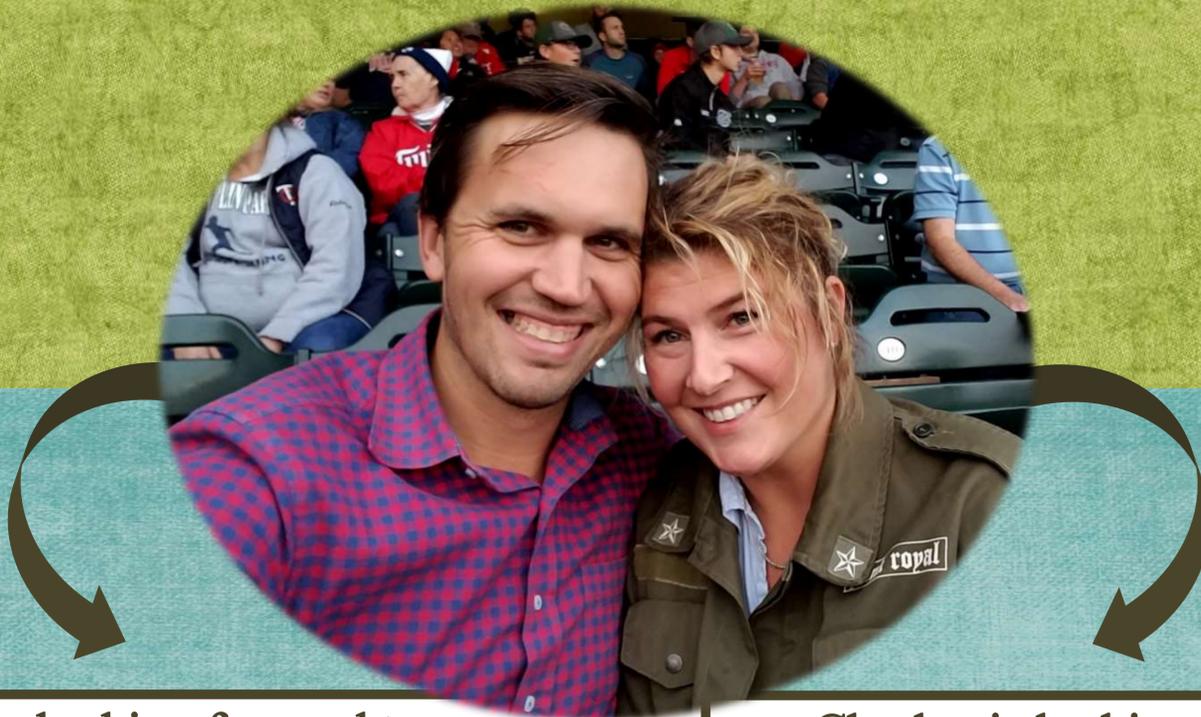
OUR FAMILIES

Charley had a healthy childhood with lots of opportunity. Her mother was amazing and was there for everything. During summers, Charley helped her mom at the barn where she got to hang out with goats, horse, pigs, etc. Her father travelled for work , so her mother provided the balance to that. Her grandparents lived next door to them; she used to sit in her grandpa's woodshop, where he taught her how to use all the tools and ride bike. Her mom's family is relatively small; her dad's side of the family is HUGE.

Her parents think it is wonderful that they are looking to adopt. Charley can't wait to see her dad in a grandfather role because he is so great with kids

Most of Cort's extended paternal family worked for his dad, including his aunt and grandma. So, anytime he or his brother did something, good or bad, it was immediately known by the entire family! It also meant that he was incredibly close to his grandparents and aunt. His mom's side of the family were farmers and lived a few hours away. For fun, his family spent a significant amount of time in the woods of Minnesota camping, hunting, dirt biking, and boating. He got to experience tons of cool things that many didn't have the opportunity for.

Cort's father passed away when he was 18. His mother recently moved nearby to be closer to them so that, when they adopt, she will be able to help them. There is nothing she wouldn't do to be part of our life and of our children's life.



Cort is looking forward to...

- ❖ Teaching my child anything...how to tie their shoes to factoring algebra expressions!
- ❖ Watching them grow into independent adults and supporting them in reaching their goals in life.
- ❖ Cuddling on the couch while watching a movie or playing Xbox with them.
- ❖ Participating in outdoor activities, such as sports, camping, or fishing with my kids.
- ❖ Letting grandparents break the rules/spoil them while pretending to get upset.

Charley is looking forward to...

- ❖ Seeing them smile when they get off the bus and running run up to give them a hug.
- ❖ Waiting for that first time they need me and actually want my advice!
- ❖ Teaching them how to take their first hockey shot or to shoot their first 3 pointer.
- ❖ Teaming up with them to trick dad when he comes home.
- ❖ Looking forward to tucking them in and reading books to them every night.

We promise that our child will....

- Be a part of a loving family that will do everything in their power to take care of them and will tuck them in every night.
- Get the opportunity to see the world and learn cultures from all walks of life and all different regions.
- Have every opportunity we can afford to get the best education and have the biggest chance of success.
- Learn healthy habits when it comes to eating and exercise so that they can grow up to be strong and live long happy lives.
- Be surrounded by supporting friends, family, and neighbors who all want to see them grow and be the best they can be.



-----THANK YOU -----

Thank you for reading this letter and for considering us for the tremendous honor of raising your child(ren) as our own. We know you have many factors to consider as you look for a family. It is very important to us that you know that your child(ren) will grow to understand that your decision for adoption came purely from love and a desire that he/she may have a better life. Please know that no matter what, they will be loved forever and that we will always take care of them.

We promise to love your child with all of our hearts and provide a safe, happy home and a life with every opportunity possible. We are excited about the chance of being able to grow our family and are so very grateful that you took the time to get to know us. Regardless of whether you choose us or another family, we respect you and believe that you are a strong person and know that you will find the right home for your baby.

With love and warm wishes,
Charley & Cort



-----THANK YOU -----