

ANNE & CHUCK





HELLO & WELCOME

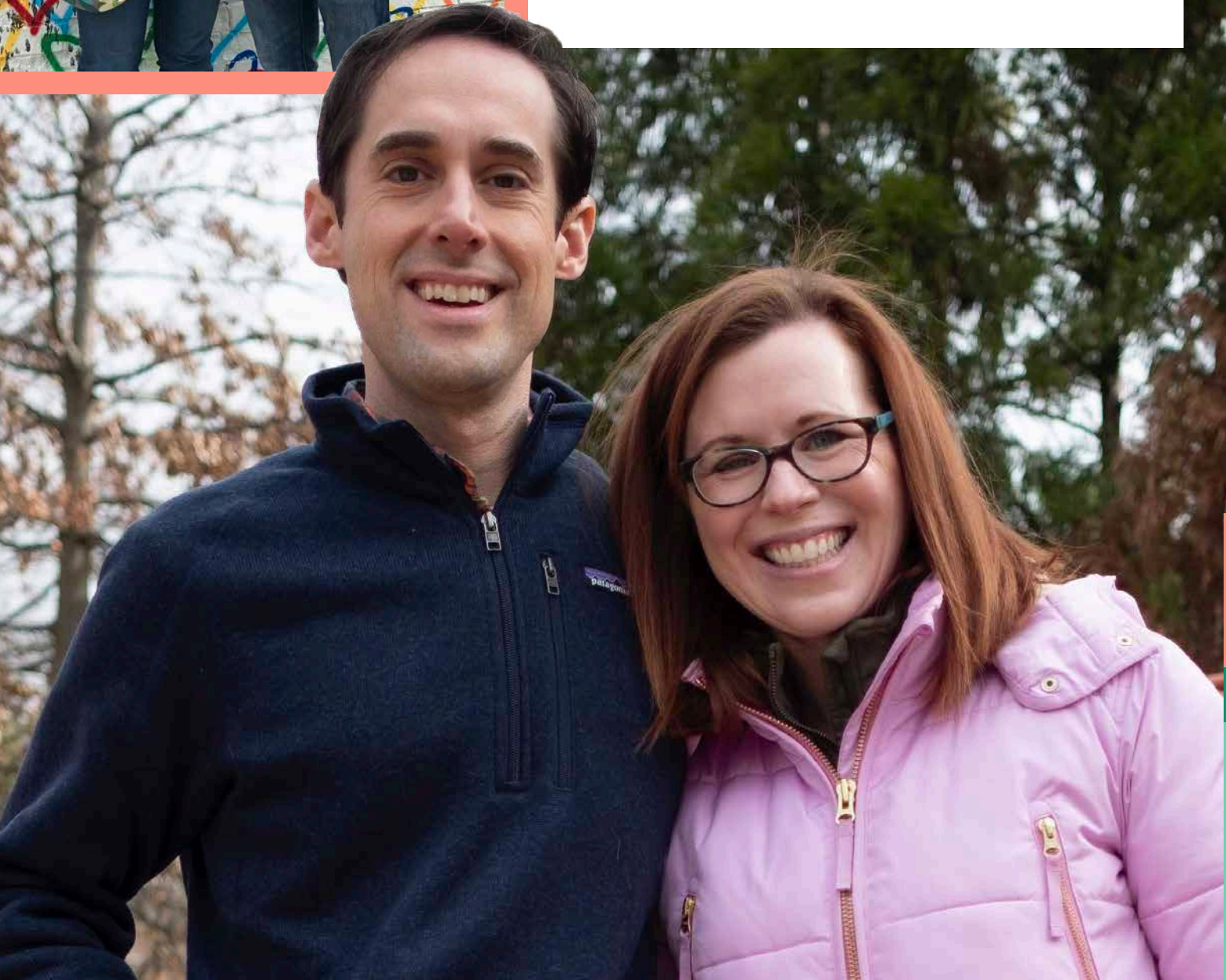
— we are —

ANNE  **CHUCK**

from  Washington DC

THANK YOU for allowing us to tell you about our family!

We can only imagine what a difficult time this is while you figure out the best option for you and your baby. **We want you to feel loved and supported no matter where you are in your journey.** In our hearts, we know that our family is meant to grow. We are hoping to share our love and commitment with a child. We promise to cherish and love your child with our hearts and souls and provide a safe, happy home and a life with every possible opportunity.



WE LOVE HIKING TOGETHER

HOW WE MET

— & Life Today —

Life is unpredictable, and you never know how or when you might meet your soul mate. We met by chance on vacation in Texas while traveling with separate groups of friends in 2012. Anne didn't believe that Chuck lived in Washington, D.C. in part because she was planning to move back to the area after having studied there for college. Shortly after Anne returned, we reconnected and began dating. And the rest you could say, is history!

Chuck was born and raised in Washington, D.C., pursued politics in school and worked in government. He is NOT a vegetarian.

Our close knit group of friends and family embraced our relationship from the beginning and continue to support us every day. Married life has brought so much joy and happy memories spent traveling, cooking, and taking advantage of our community and everything the nation's capital has to offer. **Our close friends, who are the parents of two adopted children, inspired us to take this path when we decided to start our family.** Their experience and support continue to encourage us on this journey.

The more time we spent together enjoying various activities, we realized our shared interests and common values. Anne grew up in upstate New York, became a vegetarian at a young age, went on to study music and became a teacher.

THINGS THAT MAKE US **HAPPY**

CHUCK: Cooking, spending time with family and friends, hiking, traveling

ANNE: AbbySue's excitement when we get home, time with family and friends, traveling, playing games, a good donut.



WITH OUR CHILDHOOD STUFFED ANIMALS

What we don't share in our personalities, pursuits, and backgrounds is a **SOURCE OF ADMIRATION** as we appreciate what makes each of us unique.



WE LOVE TO TAKE ABBYSUE WITH US WHEN WE CAN!

— introducing —
ANNE

*Written
By Anne*

For a large part of my career I

taught band on the Texas/Mexico border and saw firsthand how much a difference music could make in the lives of my young students. Music has always been a strong part of my life and the minute the bassoon was placed in my hands I loved it because it was as quirky as my middle school self!

When I moved to Virginia, I changed careers and now work in higher education. It is a family-friendly organization that allows me to put family first. I still play and teach bassoon and look forward to sharing my love and passion for music with our child.



I'M ALWAYS UP FOR AN ADVENTURE AND LOVE TO TRY NEW THINGS. HERE I AM TRYING CANYONING FOR THE FIRST TIME AND IT WAS AWESOME!

ANNE THROUGH CHUCK'S EYES

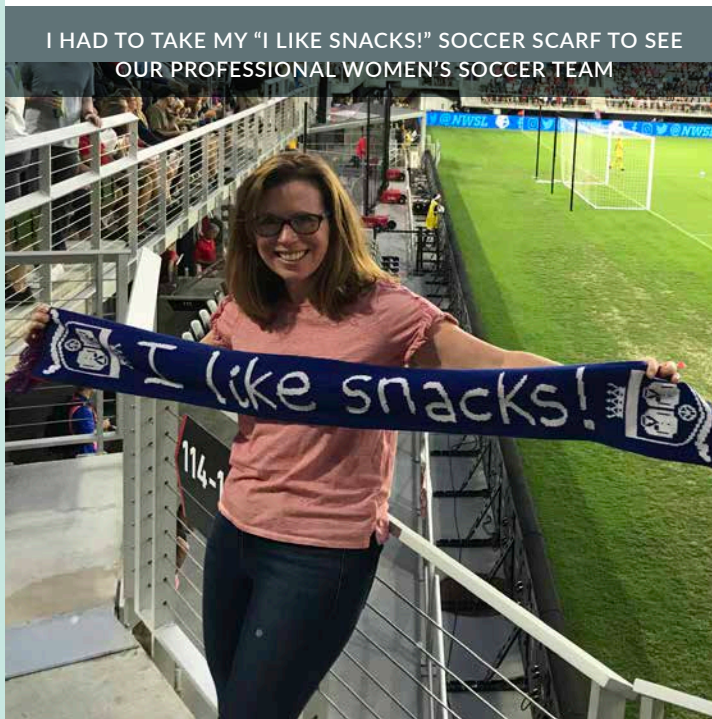
What can I say? Anne's glowing smile, boisterous laugh, and joyful nature light up every room she enters. Anne's devotion to family and childhood friends tells you everything you need to know about her character and her priorities in life. She never forgets a birthday or special occasion and is often in the kitchen baking cookies and cakes to send to family members or friends. The encouraging and reassuring way she teaches reveals so much of what will make her a wonderful mother. You can see the instant connection she makes with children when she transforms into the tickle monster, revealing her inner child that never left.



MUSIC IS STILL VERY MUCH A PART OF ANNE'S LIFE, SHE PLAYS IN LOCAL ORCHESTRAS AND TEACHES PRIVATE LESSONS

A FEW OF MY FAVORITES

- > **ANIMAL** Dog
- > **ATHLETE** Serena Williams
- > **CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT** Cake
- > **CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY** Playing with my neighborhood friends, who are still my best friends today!
- > **CHILDREN'S TV SHOW OR MOVIE** The Muppets
- > **CHILDREN'S BOOK** The Monster at the End of This Book (still my favorite! And I have my original copy)
- > **DESSERT** Vanilla Cake with buttercream frosting
- > **GAME** It's hard to pick a favorite, but if I had to, it would be Taboo.
- > **HOBBY** Baking
- > **HOLIDAY** Christmas



I HAD TO TAKE MY "I LIKE SNACKS!" SOCCER SCARF TO SEE OUR PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM



CELEBRATING ANNE'S GODDAUGHTER'S CHRISTENING

ANNE IS THE IDEAL PARTNER

CONFIDENT

COMPASSIONATE

AND

COURAGEOUS

Written
By Chuck

Public
service
was a

calling for me ever since high school, but after 15 rewarding years in government, it was time for a change. My new job in the aerospace industry provides a lot more flexibility, and it's exciting to learn about advances in technology. Running remains a passion of mine that keeps me fit, relieves stress, and gives me the energy to take on the day. I also love baking bread and cooking almost anything together with Anne – both hobbies help us stay healthy and have great family time together. **I look forward to making family meals for and eventually with our child.**

— introducing —
CHUCK



AT THE START OF ONE OF MY GREATEST HIKING FEATS!



WE LIKE TO FIND NEW WAYS TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER

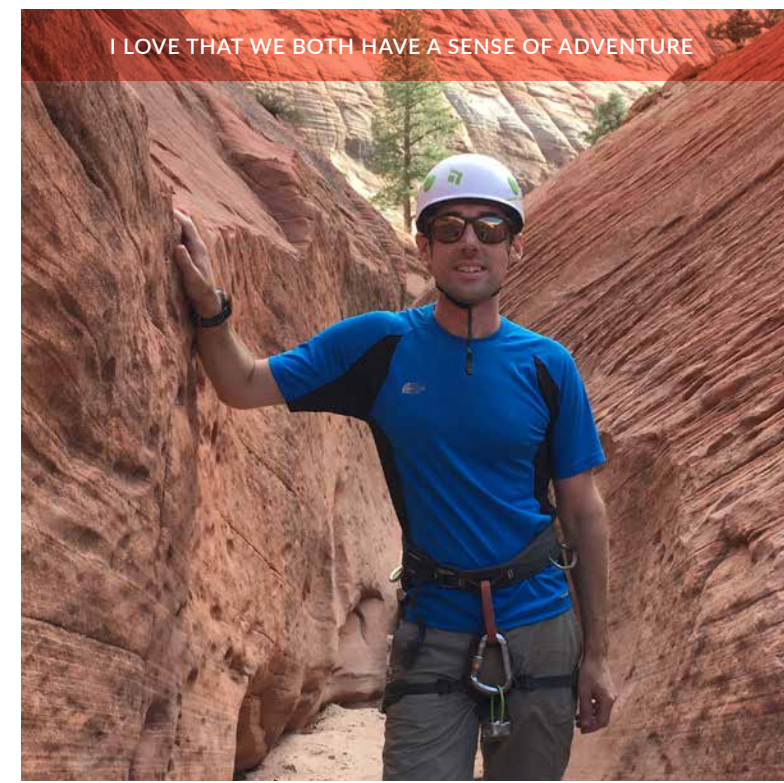
WATCHING CHUCK INTERACT WITH THE CHILDREN IN OUR LIVES REINFORCES THAT HE WILL BE THE PERFECT PARTNER TO PARENT OUR CHILD.



CHUCK LOVES TO PLAY DOLLS WHEN WE VISIT WITH FRIENDS

A FEW OF MY FAVORITES

- > **ANIMAL** Dog
- > **ATHLETE** Ryan Zimmerman
- > **CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT** Coffee
- > **CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY** Soccer
- > **CHILDREN'S TV SHOW OR MOVIE** The Goonies
- > **CHILDREN'S BOOK** The Grinch
- > **DESSERT** Apple Pie
- > **GAME** Monopoly. Epic games with friends and family that lasted for hours.
- > **HOBBY** Running
- > **HOLIDAY** Thanksgiving



I LOVE THAT WE BOTH HAVE A SENSE OF ADVENTURE

CHUCK THROUGH ANNE'S EYES

What I love about Chuck is that he's the perfect mix of kindness, humility, incredible patience, and a great sense of humor. There is a selflessness about Chuck that never ceases to amaze me. He's probably the most caring and dependable person I've ever met – a great example of this is when my girlfriends visit with their children Chuck will watch their children so we can have a few hours of much-needed girl time. My friend's daughter loves when "Uncle Cluck" comes to visit, she immediately pulls him away to go play dolls and tell stories.



A QUICK REST FROM RUNNING AROUND THE FARM WITH OUR NIECE AND NEPHEW



OUR FAVORITE LOCAL HIKE

— Things We — LOVE TO DO

A passion for both of us is visiting the national parks in our region and around the country. We love hiking, and when we're visiting a new place, we always pick a new activity to try. Some favorites have been canyoning, horseback riding, and kayaking. Since **EXPLORING** can be a great way to learn, we look forward to continuing our love of travel and adventure as we expand our family.

ANNE: When I'm not bassooning in my free time, I love baking and decorating cakes and cookies. I've started a tradition of sending Halloween cookies to all the kids in our life and am often asked to make birthday cakes for family and friends.



PASTRY DECORATING IS SO MUCH FUN!

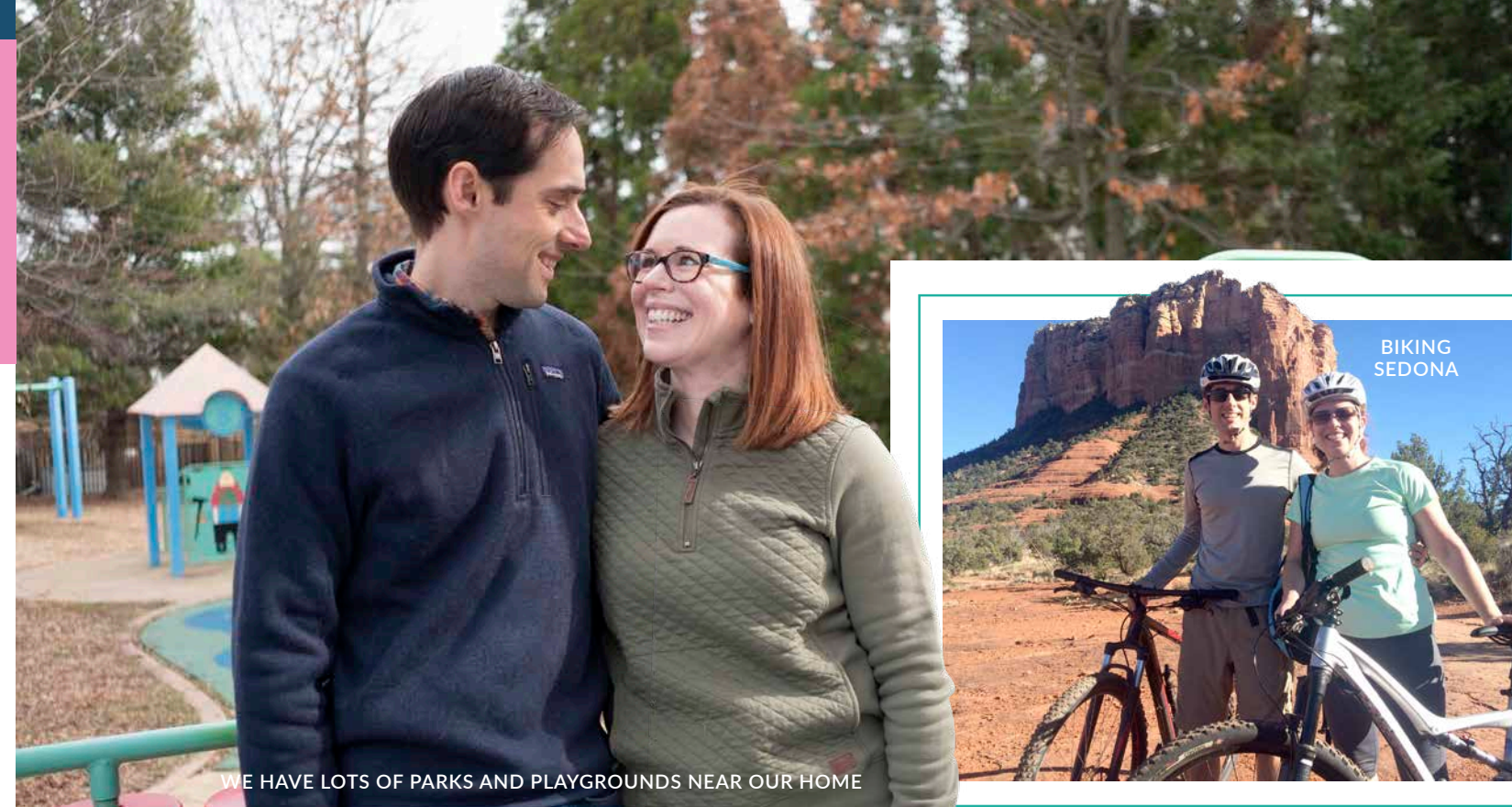


AUNT ANNIE'S FAMOUS HALLOWEEN COOKIES



FRESH BREAD IS THE BEST!

CHUCK: In my free time, I enjoy running with a local run club, baking bread, and hiking with Anne and our dog, AbbySue. In our community, I have served as president of our homeowner's association and volunteered with a local organization that provides emotional support and companionship for residents in senior homes.



WE HAVE LOTS OF PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS NEAR OUR HOME



BIKING SEDONA

WE WILL TEACH — Our Children —

TREATING OTHERS the way you want to be treated.

COMPASSION and generosity toward others.

THE IMPORTANCE of education.

APPRECIATION for the environment and outdoors.

TO BE CURIOUS.



VACATIONING IN ITALY

6 WAYS WE SHOW EACH OTHER **OUR LOVE**

- KIND WORDS • SHARING • PATIENCE
- COMPASSION • GENEROSITY
- THANKING EACH OTHER



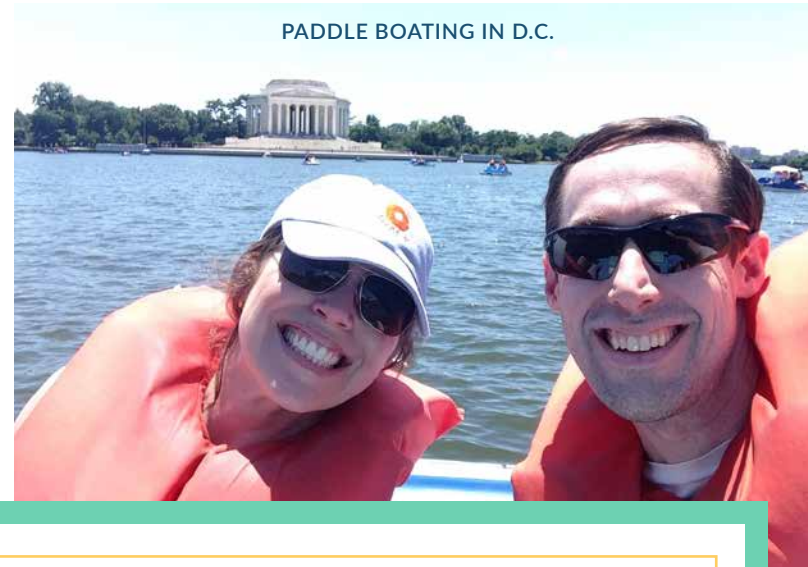
OUR NECK OF

—The Woods—

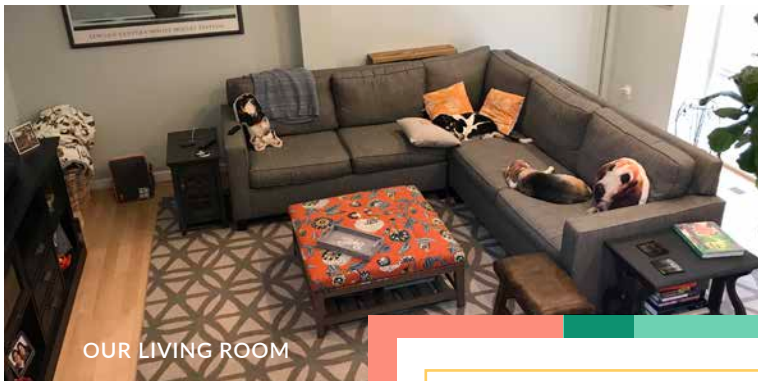
When we got married, we wanted to settle in a community that was similar to where we lived as children. **We were very fortunate to find such a home in a small neighborhood of houses with lots of young children who play outside.** We're close enough to **WASHINGTON, D.C.** to take advantage of all a major city has to offer, but we are also surrounded by parks, playgrounds, and miles of running/biking trails. We cannot wait to play on the playgrounds with our child! Our school district is as diverse as our community and one of the best in the state. **The elementary school is only blocks from our house. We love where we live and can't wait to create memories of cooking, playing, reading stories and planning adventures near and far.**



WE LOVE OUR FOREVER HOME!



PADDLE BOATING IN D.C.



OUR LIVING ROOM

—Meet— ABBYSUE

AbbySue is our 10-year-old basset hound/spaniel mix. She is as devoted to us as a dog can be and perfectly fits into our family. Abby is perfectly **HAPPY** snuggling on the couch with us or going on one of our many hiking adventures; as long as she's with us she's happy. We often watch Chuck's mom's dog, Lily, a senior beagle, and love watching the hilarious bond Abby and Lily have formed. **OUR NEPHEWS LOVE ABBY** and Lily, and we have been told they play a game where they each pretend they are one of the dogs in this dynamic duo.



BIRTHDAY GIRL!

ABBY'S TOP 3 FAVS:

FAMILY • TREATS • SNUGGLES

AT THE SPOT WHERE WE WERE MARRIED



~FIVE~
reasons why
WE
LOVE
— our —
community

THE MANY MILES of biking/running trails close to our house that connects many areas of our community.

THE GERMAN BAKERY around the corner where everyone gathers throughout the year to enjoy delicious pastries. Sometimes Anne wonders if this bakery is the real reason family come to visit!

THE LOCAL RESTAURANTS and markets for when we want to have a special night out.

EASY ACCESS to Washington, D.C. and to a variety of outdoor activities.

ALL THE PARKS near our house, Abby Sue loves to let loose and run around and sniff to her hearts content.



CHUCK'S FAMILY

THE PEOPLE

—we LOVE—

OUR AWESOME FAMILY TRADITIONS!



As kids we both got **ORNAMENTS** on Christmas Eve, and now we have enough ornaments to easily fill our tree, a tradition we want to pass on to our children.

CELEBRATING birthdays at Chuck's family farmhouse.

BAKING HOLIDAY COOKIES Anne has a tradition of sending cookies for Halloween to all the young people in our lives; Chuck helps with the sprinkles.

FRIENDSGIVING – we host a second Thanksgiving with all our local friends to make sure we get to see each other around the holidays.



EXPLORING D.C. WITH FAMILY.



CHRISTMAS IN CANADA

WE BOTH COME FROM VERY CLOSE FAMILIES THAT SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND GET TOGETHER AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE.

CHUCK'S MOM lives 5 miles away in the house he grew up in and we see her often. Chuck's older brother lives with his wife and three young children in New York City. We love spending time taking their children on adventures. Unfortunately, Chuck's father is no longer with us, but his memory is very much alive and remains a constant source of inspiration for us in how we live and support each other.

ANNE'S PARENTS also live in the house she grew up in, in Central New York. They are retired and visit us often. We like to visit them for a dose of winter or summer fun in their pool. Anne has two brothers that live out of state, but we visit each other many times throughout the year. Our nephew goes to college in Washington, DC, and we love having him over for a home-cooked meal and time away from dorm life!



PLAYING DRESS UP AT OUR NEPHEW'S BIRTHDAY PARTY



CHUCK'S COUSINS LIVE ON OUR STREET AND WE FREQUENTLY GET TOGETHER



FAMILY CELEBRATIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO US



We both have big extended families and make a special effort to stay connected with lots of visits during the year and especially during times of celebration. Chuck's brother owns a farmhouse a few hours from us in Virginia, which has become a gathering spot for his family to come together.

Our families have easily integrated, Chuck's mom joined us and Anne's family on our most recent Christmas ski adventure in Canada.

FAVORITE

ANOTHER FAMILY TRADITION
ANNUAL POOL RACES!



OUR PROMISE TO YOU

WE PROMISE TO...

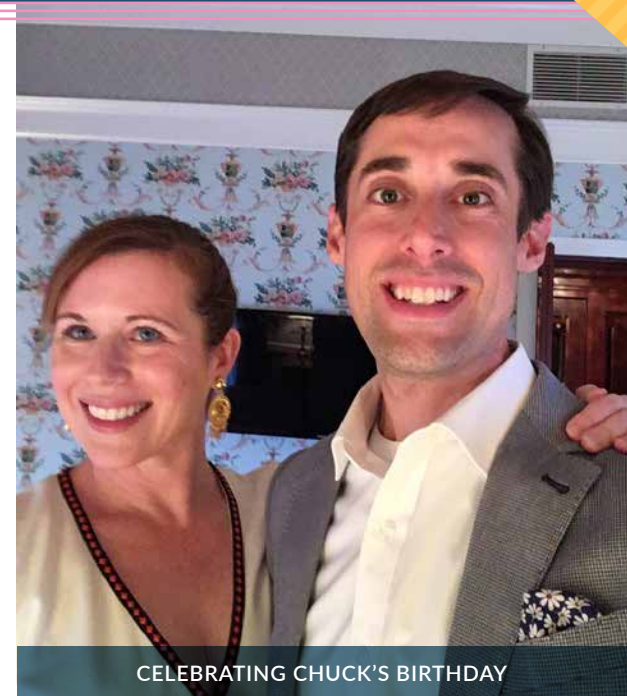
INSTILL the values of honesty, respect, compassion, perseverance, hard work

PROVIDE love, safety, laughter, empathy

ALLOW FOR curiosity, individuality, exploration, opportunity

We will try to do this every day with love, laughter, and open communication.

More than anything, we want you to know that we will love your child unconditionally and will nurture them to grow up to be the best person they can be.



CELEBRATING CHUCK'S BIRTHDAY



HIKING IN UTAH

QUALITIES WE VALUE

- KINDNESS • GENEROSITY • SENSE OF HUMOR
- CURIOSITY • DEPENDABILITY



THANK YOU

—from the bottom of our hearts—

We are grateful for you taking the time to get a glimpse into our lives and learn about why we are so excited to bring a child into our family. We want you to know that you will have a special place in our hearts and our family. We can only imagine how difficult this decision is for you to make. Recognizing how much love, compassion, and kindness you have shown, we hope we can be the parents you want your child to have. We would welcome the possibility of meeting and spending time with you.

We promise to love, nurture, and support your child unconditionally and provide the best possible opportunity for a happy and rewarding life.