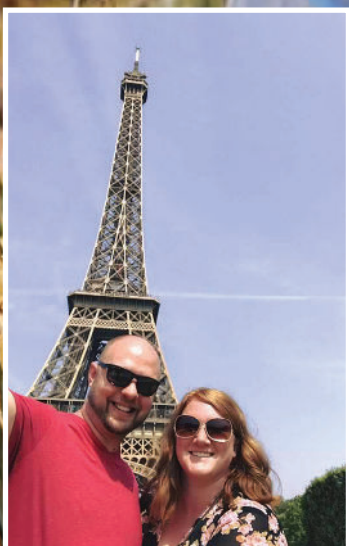




Jillian & Alex



OUR STORY

We met in 2013 through mutual friends. What Jillian remembers from their first encounter was “There was never a lull in conversation... Alex made me laugh all evening.” Alex recalls “I was immediately drawn to Jillian. She commands a room. I had to get to know her.” Two years later in 2015, we got married, bought our home and got our dog Buddy. We were excited to start a family. We have always considered adopting a child, and after we learned it would be difficult for us to conceive on our own, we felt as though this was God’s way of showing us that adoption was His plan for us. Early in 2020 we welcomed our daughter Delilah into our family, adopting her at birth.



OUR INTERESTS

Alex and Jillian are both teachers. When we first met it was one of our first conversation topics. We enjoy working with children and seeing students grow. We pride ourselves on being great educators who teach children not only academics but life lessons. Both Alex and Jillian have received recognition from their schools for their excellence in the classroom. We think having worked for years with many children of different abilities, ages, and backgrounds has really prepared us to raise our children.

We both have an affinity for travel. We love to go to new places and experience history and culture. We've been to several different countries and have also traveled a lot within the U.S. We love a good road trip and seeing state and national parks. One of our favorite aspects of traveling is getting to experience a place with our loved ones. We have gone on many trips with Jillian's parents, Lynn & George. We look forward to many more family vacations.

One of Alex's passions is history.

He loves to share his knowledge with his students and family/friends. Alex insists on visiting historical sites on trips. Jillian can imagine Alex spouting off facts, and our children as teens will be giving eye rolls and lovingly complaining to their dad that they've heard the information many times before.

If Jillian has free time, you can find her curled up with a good book or spending hours at the library. Another one of her pastimes is the theater. Now going to shows is something we can do together. We look forward to sharing this passion with our children - we already enjoy singing Disney songs (Jillian is off key and Delilah is mostly yelling) in our living room while laughing and dancing as a family.

We are both avid sports fans. We enjoy attending games and have already introduced Delilah to our favorite professional and college sports teams. Not only is Alex a big fan, but he takes his knowledge and gives it to the next generation. Alex has coached youth leagues and high school sports.



Jillian

Jillian is an elementary school teacher. Jillian prides herself on being creative and a good listener. Three words Alex uses to describe Jillian are nurturing, hard-working and dedicated. Alex said, "Since the day I met her, Jillian's ability to care for others has been overwhelming. She is the most genuine person I've ever met. Jillian is very compassionate – she puts others before herself, thinking of ways to improve someone's day or make a situation better. Her dedication to the job of being a friend, sibling, daughter and wife are unmatched. If you know Jillian, you know you're never alone."

Alex

Alex is also a teacher, which is something that immediately bonded us. Alex teaches high school government. Alex is very outgoing and is known for his humor and being incredibly thoughtful. Three adjectives Jillian uses to describe Alex are selfless, driven and light-hearted. "Alex is one of those people who gets along with everyone. When I was first meeting his friends and family, everyone kept telling stories of things he helped with or times he was there for others. I had never met a person who was so universally well-liked and appreciated. I knew he was already special to me, but to see others speak so highly of him was truly remarkable." Jillian says. "Alex has the ability to make simple tasks turn into excitement through his positivity and humor. There is never a dull moment with him around!"



Our Home

Shortly after getting married, we bought a home in central Ohio. We live in a lovely neighborhood with an elementary school and park within walking distance from our home. We live on a charming, quiet street.



Delilah was born in January of 2020. She is kind and loving - especially towards our dog Buddy and when tending to her babydolls. As equal as she is sweet, she is confident and vocal. She is a natural born leader, and we love her 2-year-old opinions about the world. Delilah enjoys helping DaDa make breakfast and read books with Mommy. She loves spending time with her grandparents and playing with her many cousins. We know she will make an amazing big sister!

Delilah



Buddy

An important member of our family is our dog, Buddy! He is a seven-year-old Yorkshire terrier/toy poodle mix. Buddy loves to go for walks and meet new people (and animals). Buddy is a spirited, playful, loving dog. He is very well trained. He has lots of experience with babies and children - he is very sweet and gentle with them, but ready and willing to play when they get out his toys! Delilah and Buddy have been snack-sharing, cuddle-partners and a loyal duo since Delilah was born.



Family

Both Alex and Jillian's parents have been married over 38 years. Jillian has three siblings and Alex has two - all of whom are married with children. Currently Delilah has a total of 8 cousins with a few more on the way! Delilah's best friends are her cousins - she loves watching and learning from her older ones and is always wanting to see the babies. Family get-togethers are a huge part of our life and we love watching the next generation grow up together!



THANK YOU for reading our profile and taking a glimpse into our life. We are proud of our family and the life we've made together. We are confident that our love, knowledge, and faith will continue to guide us in our parenting journey.

"I look at Alex and have nothing but complete certainty that he was meant to be a father - not just a father, but the storybook, fairytale, all-American sitcom father. Alex is the dad everyone deserves, but not all receive."

"Jillian and I were always meant to be with one another. She is my soulmate. All we want to do is share a life full of love and experiences with our children."

Please know that we keep all expectant parents in our prayers and wish you the best in your journey. We can only imagine the wide range of thoughts and emotions you have through the adoption process and truly appreciate your time and consideration. As we are seeking to grow our family, please know that we would love nothing more than open communication and a continued relationship. We have had an amazing experience of openness with our first adoption. Thank you for thinking of us and considering us as parents.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONNECTING WITH YOU

If you have any questions for us or would like to speak with us about adopting your child, please contact your case worker at Open Arms Adoptions by calling 330-697-4751 or 614-349-1510.