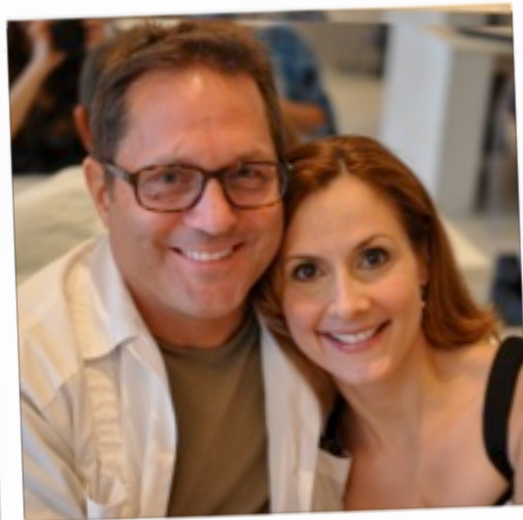


KELLY & TOM





Hi! We are Kelly and Tom.

Welcome and thank you so much for choosing to read our letter.

We want you to know from the very beginning, that we think your decision to make an adoption plan shows a whole lot of courage and wisdom. We acknowledge you for your great strength, and want to respond with all of our support and understanding. With us, your child would always know that your love for them is endless, beginning with your choice to help them grow as a part of a wonderful family.

In the following pages, through words and pictures, we want to share with you who we are. We feel very lucky to have the opportunity to tell you about our amazing family. Nurturing a new life and guiding a child's growth on their journey in this world is something we have always dreamed of doing. We have always wanted, more than anything, to have the chance to raise a baby together. After unsuccessfully trying to have a child of our own for several years, we have chosen adoption. We know it does not matter how a child enters our family, the important thing is how excited and committed we are to loving and treasuring that child for a lifetime.

As we write this today, we are thinking of you, and truly hope to be the very family you are looking for to provide a joyful, warm and loving home for your baby.

All our best,

Kelly & Tom

Kelly & Tom



"This is our story..."

We have been together for over 13 years, and married for the last 5 of those years. Daily life is filled with teamwork, laughter, sharing chores, and creating delicious healthy meals together. We balance successful careers in arts and education, which gives us lots to talk about everyday with each other and our friends and family.

Our spacious New York apartment is in a kid-friendly neighborhood. A secure playground & park, indoor playroom facility and beautiful community garden set the stage for family fun with picnics, camping and soccer.

Tom's parents have both passed away, but their spirit remains with us every day. Kelly's Mom and Dad, retired medical professionals, are a big

part of our lives. They are more than ready to begin life as grandparents, providing daily support in our nurturing home.

We have been fortunate to have shared in the experience of parenting two children from Tom's previous marriage, along with their mother Susan. With mutual love and support we have all enjoyed watching them

grow and succeed. Anna, 23, now lives nearby and works in the theatre industry, and Jake, 20, is a college student studying Psychology and Art. They love our family traditions and are extremely excited to begin their new roles as Big Brother and Big Sister when a new baby joins our family.

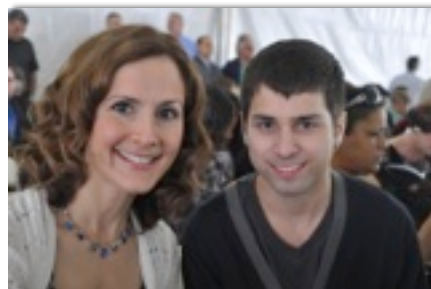
GREETINGS!



FAMILY: IT'S WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT



Christmas, Thanksgiving and Summer Vacations. It always is and always will be about coming together to celebrate the family.



Supporting our kids in school from the first day all the way to graduation. With smiles!



Group activities that make a difference, like spending the holiday feeding the homeless on the streets of the city as a family, together.

OUR WEDDING DAY



We met while acting in a play together and became best friends right away. After 8 years of dating, we got married on a beach in Hawaii. Our wedding was incredibly beautiful, intimate and romantic. We stood barefoot at sunset with only a few witnesses and some sea turtles to hear us say our vows. The whole trip was magical and served as a celebration of our deep love and support for each other. In our thirteen happy years together, we have learned to trust one another completely and help each other through life's joys and struggles. Whether laughing, hugging, listening, crying, or playing together, we do everything as a committed, loving team and family.



THOUGHTS ON PARENTING

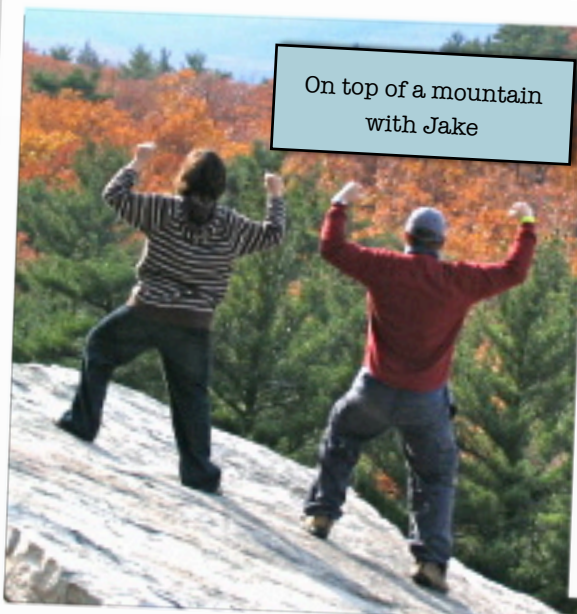


Sightseeing with
Anna



With Jake at the Zoo

We will nurture and love your child every day, with generosity, kindness and lots of hugs and kisses. We look forward to inspiring his or her natural curiosity and thirst for knowledge while being consistent with structure and discipline. We promise that your child will always be the top priority in our daily life. As parents, we will be open and honest; ready to communicate and to listen in a flexible, caring way. Our parenting style will be based on finding “teachable moments” in our everyday world together, and guiding him or her as they grow and learn. Above all, we will show your child that our love for them is limitless as we strive to be the best parents we can be.



On top of a mountain
with Jake



Cooking with
Anna



The love of my life...

MEET KELLY

Nickname: Sparky

Passion: Singing/Running

Strength: Endless Energy

Weakness: Peanut Butter

Career: Actor

Skills: Singing, playing Saxophone, Piano and Flute, and running marathons!

Favorite Quote: "Life is a song... Sing out Louise!"



SOME WORDS ABOUT KELLY, FROM TOM

My best friend. That is always how I begin the answer when asked to describe Kelly to people. It is who she truly is. With kindness and a great sense of delight, she goes out of her way to help everyone and joyfully keeps up with our large circle of family and friends. Any child would be lucky to have Kelly as a role model. As we prepare for welcoming a child into our home I can think of no better person in the world to be a Mom than Kelly. Not only in the millions of ways she has already proven herself to be a terrific stepmom for Anna and Jake, but in the way she just simply lives her life. She is so smart, always working hard to find the right answer to a problem. She has run over a dozen marathons in as many cities. Her running is such a great example to others of achievement. Your child will no doubt benefit greatly from such a warm, caring and positive person. So, life will be full of jogs in the park, crossword puzzles over cups of tea and spoonfuls of peanut butter!



Dancing the Hula



Visiting Anna at College



The Boston Marathon



My sweet love...

MEET TOM

Nickname: Tommy

Passion: Storytelling

Strength: Imagination

Weakness: Pizza

Career: Arts in Education

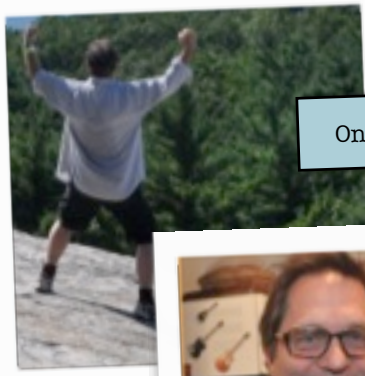
Skills: Cooking & Guitar

Favorite Quote: "Life is one big canvas, throw as much paint on it as you can!"



SOME WORDS ABOUT TOM, FROM KELLY

Tom is a kind, generous man full of creativity and warmth. Besides being a loving, caring husband, he is also my best friend, and I love him very much. He is loyal, hard working and loved by family and lots of close friends. He is already a wonderful father to his two beautiful children, so I know that he will be an amazing father to your child as well. Tom is an incredible teacher and mentor for all of his students. His imagination and energy inspire the kids lucky enough to be in his classroom. When he is not "reaching & teaching," he enjoys bike rides along the Hudson, playing guitar, cooking delicious meals and watching soccer. He will be a great, loving role model, and probably teach your child to bake bread, recite Shakespeare and kick a soccer ball around our back yard!



On the Mountain



Hugs from Anna



Shakespeare with Jake

TOM'S CAREER

My job never feels like work. That's because it's all play. After many years of successful work as an actor on Broadway and in Hollywood, I am truly pursuing my passion - teaching. Both my parents were teachers. As the Director of Outreach for a legendary arts organization, I plan and lead daily classes and workshops for disadvantaged youth in New York City and throughout the country. Every day is highly creative and full of energy. I love all of my students, and find so much joy in helping them grow, while unlocking their imagination through writing plays, studying acting and performing in classrooms, community centers and on a variety of stages.



Teaching in Harlem

KELLY'S CAREER

I feel like the luckiest person on the planet, because my career is really my passion. I am a working professional actor. As long as I can remember, acting has been my dream, and now I get to live my dream working on Broadway! I have also acted on TV and in films as well as in theaters across the country and around the world. Basically, I love telling stories to audiences and moving their hearts. Another great joy of my job, is meeting audiences and giving backstage tours to children. It's wonderful to share my craft and answer questions. If I can move one person to laugh or cry; or entertain them with a wonderful story, lifting them out of their daily lives for a few hours, then I feel great!



Performing on Broadway

WHERE WE LIVE

BEAUTIFUL HOME

Our home is a cozy warm apartment in a family friendly New York City neighborhood. We love our place because it is full of natural light and the air always smells like yummy freshly baked bread since Tom is usually happily baking up a storm in the kitchen.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

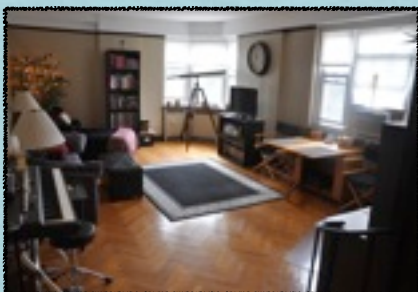
We spend weekends running and biking along the beautiful Hudson River, snuggling up watching movies in our large sunken living room and making family meals together with the kids when they come home to visit from school.



SAFE, SECURE AND FUN

The building is a secure co-op of other owners, with 24 hour security and the friendliest staff of doormen in NYC. Our neighborhood is full of families with lots of children of all ages. They enjoy playing together in our big private back yard on the jungle gym, in the sandbox

and on the large oval field overlooking the river, throwing frisbees and kicking soccer balls. We also have a community garden where we grow vegetables and flowers together. And, on rainy days, we can play indoors in our spacious children's playroom.



LIVING ROOM Our large living room is a place to gather and play. There is always music to enjoy, books to read, and movie nights are a tradition with popcorn of course!

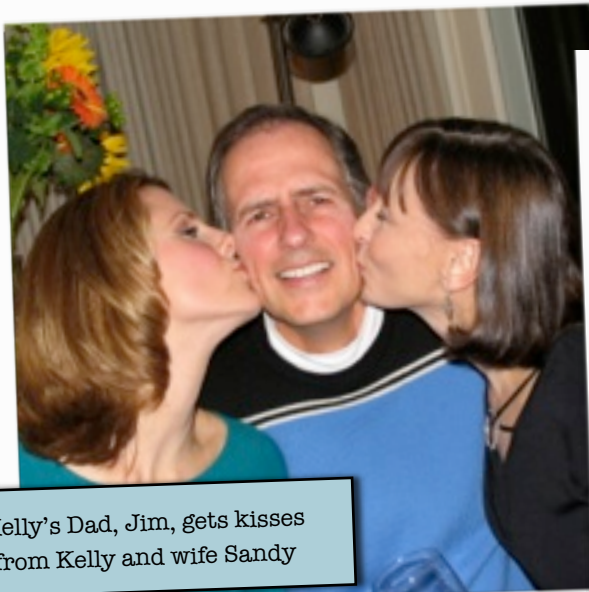


SAND BOX Our building has it's own private park, with paths for strolling, a field for sports, a playground with a sandbox to explore and a garden to grow vegetables and flowers.



DELICIOUS MEALS We love to cook together, filling our table with delicious things. Yummy Holiday ham, smashed potatoes and Mom's green beans are a special treat!

FAMILY FUN

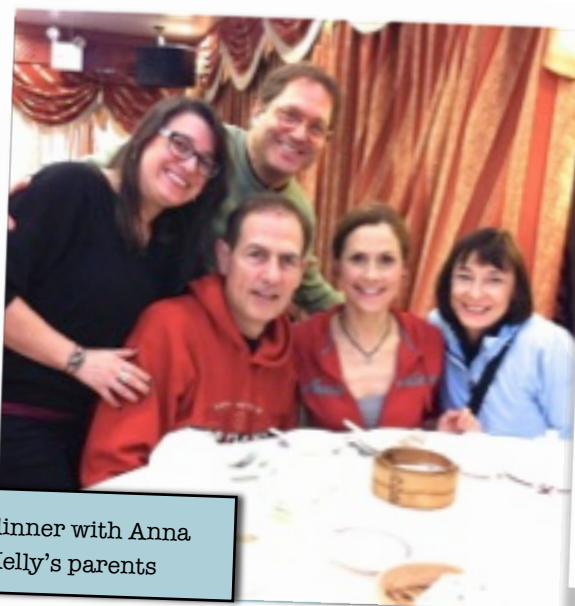


Kelly's Dad, Jim, gets kisses from Kelly and wife Sandy



Riding the rapids with Anna

Our family is already full of wonderful fun traditions that we can't wait to share with your child. We love getting together for Christmas, Thanksgiving and 4th of July fireworks on our roof deck. We look forward to having another little set of hands to decorate gingerbread cookies, hang stockings for Santa and toss handfuls of marshmallows into cups of hot cocoa. It will be such a joy to travel on vacations together. We look forward to many family trips full of hiking, rafting, camping and general adventuring. Throughout the year we will celebrate birthdays and holidays with hugs, laughter and love, creating great new traditions with your little one as we go along!



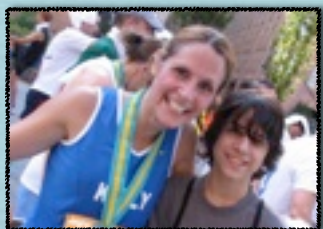
Out for dinner with Anna and Kelly's parents



Kelly and her Dad run the NYC Marathon



MEET ANNA & JAKE

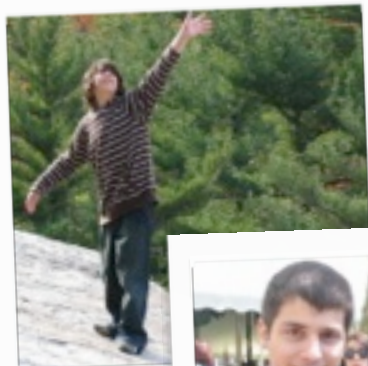


Two very special people...



THE KIDS

Two of our favorite people in the world have to be Anna & Jake. Together, we have had many wonderful times with them, and we look forward to many more. When we became a couple, both kids became a big part of our life. Not only through traveling, enjoying sporting events, seeing movies and sharing traditional family gatherings, but by being there for each other when things became challenging and a family was the best thing to help you get through it. For the past 10 years they lived with their mother, Susan, and together we have all participated in celebrations and accomplishments, as well as times of trouble, when homework was confusing or growing up in this world became difficult. Both are close by and in our world everyday. They share in our excitement, as we hope to grow our family just a little bit bigger, by one.





KELLY'S FAMILY

Meet Kelly's folks! Jim and Sandy are high school sweethearts that have been happily married for 47 years.

Kelly's Dad, Jim, is a recently retired doctor who now enjoys golfing, fishing, reading mystery novels and running marathons. (A passion he clearly passed on to Kelly!) He is a wise, loving man with a warm heart and a silly sense of humor. And, he is always there to listen and share advice whenever a medical question arises, or if you just need a shoulder to lean on.



Bella,
a friend's grandchild,
visits Dad



Mom babysitting a best friend's child

Kelly's Mom, Sandy, is also retired from her career as a lab technician. She loves to read, take long walks, and work for hours digging in the garden. She is a bright ball of energy who is fiercely loyal and loves her family more than life itself. For years, Sandy has also been dedicated to helping raise her many nieces and nephews.



Although Kelly is an only child, she grew up with her very large extended family all around her. Singing around the organ together, sneaking cookie dough from Grandma's kitchen, and ice skating with her many cousins on the lake.

Kelly with Grandma



Kelly's Mom with Aunt Kim



KELLY'S FAMILY

On our frequent visits home, we enjoy big picnics in Auntie Kim's backyard, guitar jam sessions with Kelly's cousins Nick and Clay, and board games played around the fireplace. We also enjoy going to dances with Kelly's Grandma, who is still dancing up a storm!

Family Jam Session



We are so lucky to have a big, loving and supportive family full of laughter and lots of hugs. Kelly's folks are a very important part of our everyday lives. And, although they have lived in Portland Oregon for many years, they are thrilled to finally be selling their house and relocating to New York City to begin their new career as full time grandparents!! They could not be more excited about the possibility of welcoming a new child into our family!!

A big happy family reunion!



Meet my Family: adventurers, artists, teachers. Both of my parents have passed away, and I miss them every day, but my life is full of the gifts they passed on to me.

TOM'S FAMILY



Janette, also a pilot, was a high school teacher who taught reading to disadvantaged students in one of the toughest schools. She was a awesome woman, smart, with a positive outlook on life. She never really retired, helping to start an organization dedicated to finding missing children around the world.



My Dad, John, a physical therapist, was "the father of sports medicine", tending to the injuries of athletes, helping them to mend and get back in the game. He sailed boats, hiked mountains and flew his own airplane across the country.





I feel blessed to have had these two extraordinary individuals as role models, friends and parents. They did everything to help me and my brother John accomplish our dreams in life. I feel so lucky.

TOM'S FAMILY

John is a doctor and ballroom dancer with his wife Diane. On holidays, John's daughter, our niece Sara, a television executive in NYC, brings her humor and joy to gatherings, especially for the kids.



There are loads of cousins, and some of the most loyal friends anyone could ask for all nearby. And, daughter Anna keeps everyone connected on Facebook, while son Jake is always ready to play a game when we all get together.



How truly blessed I feel. And now with Kelly and her family in my life, it is beautiful watching us all enjoy the love we share together.



FUN TIMES



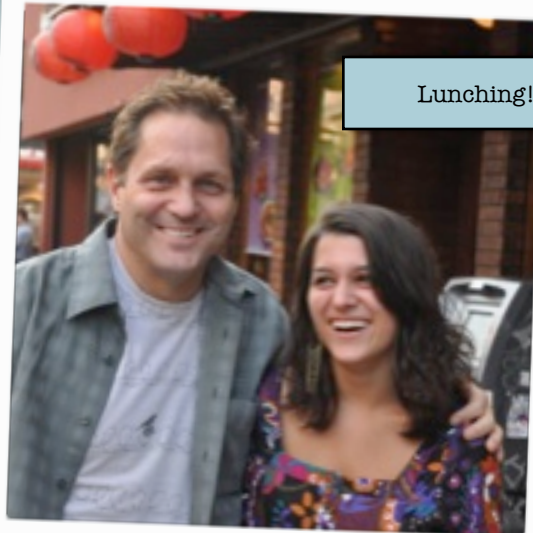
Hiking!



Beach Combing!



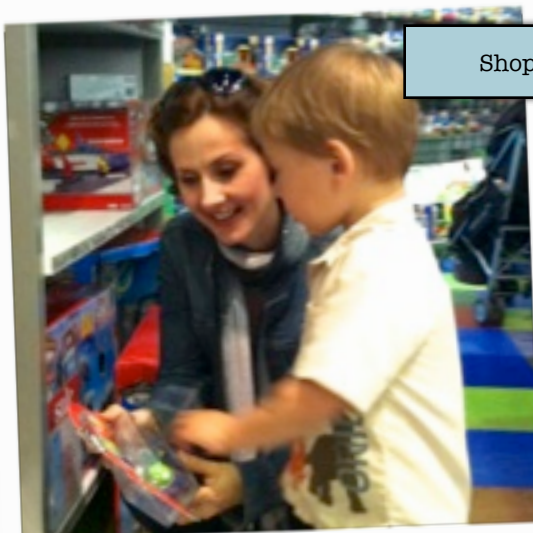
Laughing!



Lunching!



Dancing!



Shopping!

FUN TIMES



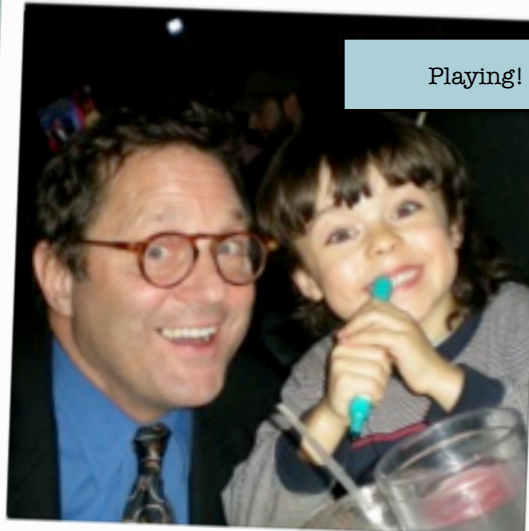
Celebrating!



Dining!



Teaching!



Playing!



Partying!



Hugging!

final thoughts...



We want to take this moment to thank you for reading about our life. Knowing you are reading this fills us with happiness, because it means you may be considering us as you make an adoption plan for your baby. Please know we are here for you as you make this difficult decision. We hope you have an easy pregnancy and delivery, and look forward to learning more about you and your dreams for your child's future.

Please feel free to contact us through our adoption agency, Forever Families Through Adoption toll free at #1-866-922-3678.



Warmest wishes,

Kelly & Ben