

MATT & SHERI



HELLO!

We appreciate your time and consideration. We can't imagine what a difficult decision you are facing right now, but hope that you will find what you are looking for, whatever that choice looks like. We hope you enjoy a glimpse into our lives and can picture your child being loved by us.

 *Matt & Sheri*



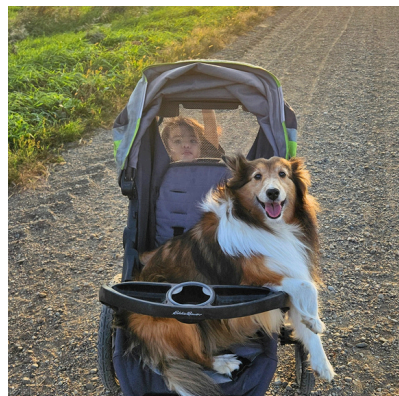
MEANT TO BE.

The first time we met was when Sheri interviewed Matt for a job in 2006. (He got the job!) Matt immediately knew there was something special about Sheri and thought he'd be lucky if we ever went out on a date. Five months later we went out on that date, but Sheri didn't want to start dating a coworker. Over time we became really good friends and couldn't imagine our lives without each other. We started dating four years later, got married in 2012 and adopted our daughter, Madie, in 2023. Madie has added so much joy to our lives. We can't wait to love another child and think Madie will be an excellent sibling!





We live on a farm in southern Minnesota. We have a long driveway off a quiet gravel road, which is great for going on walks together with the dogs. We enjoy having friends and family over to enjoy our backyard (or indoors, if bugs are biting) and **plenty of room to run around and play.**



Growing up as farm kids, we know how fulfilling farm life is. Even when life takes unexpected turns, we have learned remain calm and go with the flow until everything settles back into place.

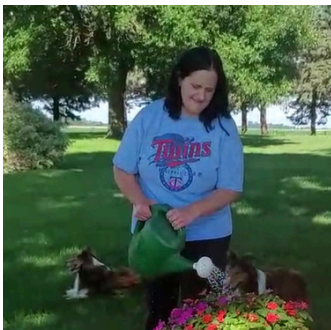
Despite the distance to our neighbors being measured in miles instead of feet, **we are never alone.** One of the things we love the most about living in a rural community is that help just shows up wherever it is needed. That was never more apparent when we traveled to Texas to meet Madie with 3-days notice. We had plenty of help to make sure our dogs, cats and cattle were taken care of while we were gone and volunteers to help with childcare until we found daycare.



ABOUT SHERI BY MATT

KIND-HEARTED | EASY-GOING | LOVES ANIMALS | BAKER

Sheri is my best friend and one of the most kind-hearted people you will meet. She likes to do projects or go to new places. She pushes me to go outside my comfort zone and do these things as well, which have always been good experiences. She is *easy-going* and *doesn't sweat the small stuff* or *get worked up when life throws curve balls at her*. She loves all animals, from our outdoor cats to our three spoiled dogs. She says she doesn't like the cows because she is afraid of them, but she still comes out to see the newborn calves in the spring.



Sheri enjoys baking. Her favorite cake is angel food. She also makes really good cupcakes and cookies. It is fun to watch how naturally Sheri interacts with Madie and our nieces and nephews. She picks up on Madie's cues and figures out what she wants. *Hearing Madie giggle while they play makes my day.*

Sheri grew up on a farm in Nebraska and moved to Minnesota in 2006 for the research job where she met me. She changed jobs one year after we got married. She now works as the nutrition manager for a large family-owned pig farm. She has a BS in animal science with minors in math and psychology and a master's degree in business administration, both from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln.

ABOUT MATT BY SHERI

GENEROUS | NEIGHBORLY | HANDY MAN | GRILL-MASTER

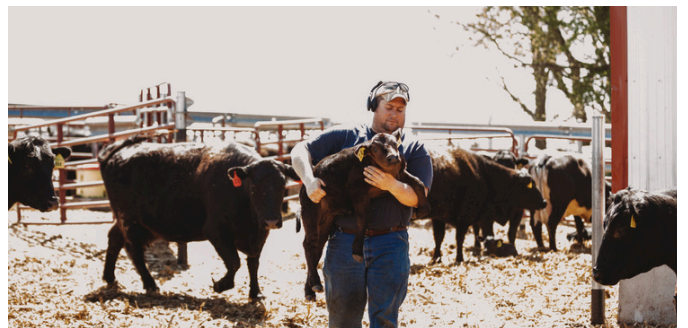


Matt is my best friend and one of the most generous people I know. He is **always willing to lend a helping hand**, whether it is showing up with a tow strap when he sees a neighbor stuck in the field or something as simple as holding the door for a stranger. He is very mechanically-inclined. There isn't a day that goes by that he isn't fixing something or thinking about what the next project we work on around the house will be.



Matt is an amazing cook, especially when it comes to grilling and smoking meat. His biggest weakness is estimating how much people will eat, so there is always a ton of leftovers. (Good thing we have an extra freezer!) Matt is a great dad. I love watching him play with Madie and her cousins; and **he loves a good "dad joke"**.

Matt grew up on a farm in Minnesota. He works as a product validation specialist for a pig genetics company. He has been there since 2016. His job has a lot of flexibility, as he works from home 3-4 days/week. He has a BS in animal science from South Dakota State University. He also has two side jobs, mowing for a neighbor and caring for about 50 cows.



MADIE

HELPFUL | ADVENTUROUS



Madie was born in February 2023. She is a social butterfly and learning so much every day. She is obsessed with animals and always making their noises and petting our dogs and cats. Her favorite place to be is outside. She also enjoys trying new foods and showing off her climbing skills to anyone that will watch.

Madie has a pretty laid-back personality and enjoys helping at home with pet chores and picking up. At daycare, she wants to do everything the “big kids” do. We think *she’ll be an excellent older sibling!*



THINGS THAT MAKE US HAPPY

SHERI

- Traveling
- Playing games/cards
- Baking treats to share
- A good nap



MATT

- Being outside
- Fixing things
- Grilling/Smoking Meat
- Hosting friends and family



MADIE

- Kitties/Puppies
- Chocolate
- Playgrounds with Slides
- Reading



OUR PETS

We have three sheltie dogs - Abby, Sheldon, and Sadie. Abby is a therapy dog that Sheri takes to colleges and nursing homes for visits. She especially loves children. She is so gentle with infants and gently puts her nose under their hand so she can show them how to pet her.

Sheldon, her son, prefers to stay at home, checking out all the scents on the farm. He is in charge of clean up at supper-time.

Sadie is the smallest of the three and the most shy, but enjoys being our shadow and following us around wherever we go.

We also have a house-cat, Weber. Sheri found him at work as a 5 week old kitten hiding under the Weber grill and thought she'd be a farm cat, until we realized she had a broken leg.



THE REST OF OUR CREW

FAMILY

We get together with family whenever possible. Sheri's family is spread out all over, but we're still close at heart. Matt's family is mostly about an hour away. Between us and Matt's two sisters, there are six kids under five. Plus we are close with his extended family, which means our kids will be able to grow up with a lot of cousins their age.



FRIENDS

We have a great group of close friends that we met through playing trivia. Weekly trivia has since been canceled, but we still get together often to play cards at one of our houses or go out for supper. One of them is Madie's godfather and we refer to most of them as Aunt and Uncle. One of our neighbors helped us out before we had daycare and they treat Madie just like another grandchild. **They are all excited that we are hoping to adopt again!**





WHAT WE WILL OFFER A CHILD

RESPONSIBILITY & PURPOSE

At a young age, we learned responsibility through taking care of the farm, alongside our parents and siblings. We learned how to put the needs of others in front of our own. We discovered the satisfaction of working hard and seeing the fruits of our labor.

LOVE & SUPPORT

We want our children to know that they are loved, no matter what. We'd like to see them grow up and make choices they are happy with, both personally and professionally. We will do everything we can do to give them opportunities to do this.



HONESTY

Nobody is perfect. We all make mistakes, including us. The rule at our house is that we are honest with ourselves and honest with each other. It doesn't matter if you ate the cupcakes and later realized that Sheri had made them for the bake sale or backed into something and scratched the car - own up to it and help fix it.



FAITH

We were born and raised Catholic and continue to practice our religion. We are godparents to 5 of our nieces and nephews. We are excited to share our faith and teach our kids about His love and grace.

THOUGHTS ON ADOPTION

Our promise to you is that you will always hold a special place in our hearts and our family. We have an open adoption with Madie's birth mom, and would like to have another open adoption, but respect that the choice is yours to make. We are open to sharing photos, letters, calls, or in person visits, if you are comfortable. Regardless of the level of openness that works for you, we want your child to know about you and that your love for them brought us all together as a family.





THANK YOU!

Growing up on a farm was an amazing experience for the both of us. We were surrounded by limitless adventure, plenty of area to run around, animals to play with, and a “neighborhood” of people that were always there for you like family, whenever you needed a hand. We look forward to raising children the same way; to teach them about the kindness, patience, and flexibility that will help them through life. We want them to know that “family” doesn’t just refer to blood-relatives, but is a word that describes everyone in their life who is important to them and is there to offer them the support they need when they need it the most.

Thank you for reading a little about our lives, and the life that we could offer your precious child.

❤️ *Matt & Sheri*