





Hello!

Thank you for taking the time to look through our family book. We hope it provides a glimpse of who we are and our vision for growing our family.

We are Aaron, Elizabeth & Addie. Aaron and Elizabeth met at the University of Washington nearly 15 years ago through mutual friends, shared everyday interests including a love for travel near and far, and an immediate spark. Addie made the most wonderful entrance into the family through an open adoption in August 2017, and our lives have been so much more incredible ever since.

We share a love of our great friends and family, celebrating life's good times and hard moments with meals together, and the strong desire to make our community stronger.



Our happiest moments are those spent together. Laughing, playing or just enjoying every day life.



After getting married 11+ years ago, we are lucky to have built a strong bond and partnership that serves as our foundation in all that life brings and as we grow our family.

Along the way we've learned the joys of sharing life together and the incredible strength we find from our love for each other and now as parents. We can't wait to continue growing our family.

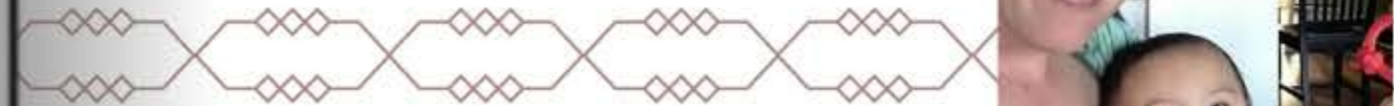


Meet Elizabeth



Elizabeth is deeply caring and driven to make a difference in our community and live a life focused on connecting with the people and places around her. She is an ever nurturing wife, daughter, friend, and above all-else mother. At work, she helps lead a women-owned consulting company that engages the public on tough regional issues like transportation. Starting shortly after college and now a part-owner, Elizabeth is proud of the team that she has built and enjoys finding solutions to complex issues.

Elizabeth grew up in Colorado and moved to Seattle for college where she fell in love with the Pike Place Market, beautiful water views, and vibrant city life. From a young age, she has always loved to dance and sing, and is quick to turn an everyday night at home into a dance party - now a favorite for Addie too! Elizabeth also loves food and the community that comes with cooking and eating together. She loves to menu plan, walk to our local farmer's market, cook with Aaron, host a monthly dinner club, and plan travel near and far around food spots (they should really be called food trips)! Her newest food love is creating delicious meals for our daughter.





Interests

- Dancing with her family
- Music (singing, indoor and outdoor concerts)
- Cooking (especially for Addie), eating, and everything else related to food
- Volunteering for a non-profit focused on supporting women
- Sailing (or just drifting!)
- Soaking up sunshine on cold winter afternoons
- Travel near and far
- Walks and happy hours with friends
- Relaxing at home with the kids (Myles the cat included)

Aaron says about Elizabeth...

"I was drawn to Elizabeth's energy, laugh and smile from the first time we met. Seeing her now as a mother, it is these qualities and the loving care that she brings that is the heart of our family. Whether teaching Addie new words as she makes dinner, dancing along to the 90s hits Spotify mix, or singing quietly at bedtime, Elizabeth brings intention and energy to everything she does. She is courageous and grounded, beautiful and unbelievably wise, and I feel like the luckiest man in the world to be her husband and parent at her side."



Aaron is an easy-going, fun loving guy always ready to take on a new adventure. He works part time as a project manager for an environmental consulting firm, where he just celebrated his 14th anniversary. Between a flexible schedule and office close to home, co-workers and clients that he loves, and solving new challenges every day, Aaron is lucky to have a career that fits him and our growing family well.

Aaron is a Seattle native, and spent his school-aged years in a suburb just north of the city. He loves the outdoors, and grew up hiking, out on the water, and generally exploring the Northwest. His love for friendly competition came from sibling rivalry with his big brother, Colin, and from years of soccer and crew. These days, most of Aaron's free time is spent playing with Addie, cooking epic meals with Elizabeth, exploring local parks with family, improving his sailing skills, endless yard and house projects, and just relaxing. After conquering unexpected heart surgeries more than 4 years ago, he is thrilled to have a clean bill of health and be as active as ever again.



Interests

- Sailing
- Feeding his sweet tooth
- Running with friends
- Neighborhood walks with family
- Road trips (in the Northwest and abroad!)
- Cooking (especially grilling!)
- Soccer and Husky football
- Homebrew (homemade IPA, yes please!)
- Movies
- Home and yard projects

Elizabeth says about Aaron...

"Aaron is a rare bread of human being in that he's selfless when it comes to his family. From the moment our relationship clicked, I knew I had a best friend for life by my side – making me the luckiest girl on earth. Aaron's patient and tender heart make it possible for me to be the person I am, and also make him an incredible dad. Aaron's incredible strength, tied with his calm demeanor, make me even more excited to continue to grow our family."





Elizabeth's Family

Elizabeth has fond memories of growing up just outside of Boulder, Colorado and many wonderful travels she was fortunate to take as a child with family and friends. She is an only child and is super close with both her mom and dad. Just months before Addie's arrival they moved to the Seattle area, and are loving their new lives as grandparents.

Elizabeth's childhood was spent playing with neighborhood and school friends, dance and choir recitals and quality time with her family and nanny (our daughters namesake). Special to Elizabeth's family was the tradition of spending time every summer together as an extended family on the north part of Long Island, New York. It was there where her cousin Heather became like a big sister, and grew up to become a best friend and confidant. She also fondly remembers family dinners together almost every night, making time to cook and connect about the day (a tradition/routine she very much values today).

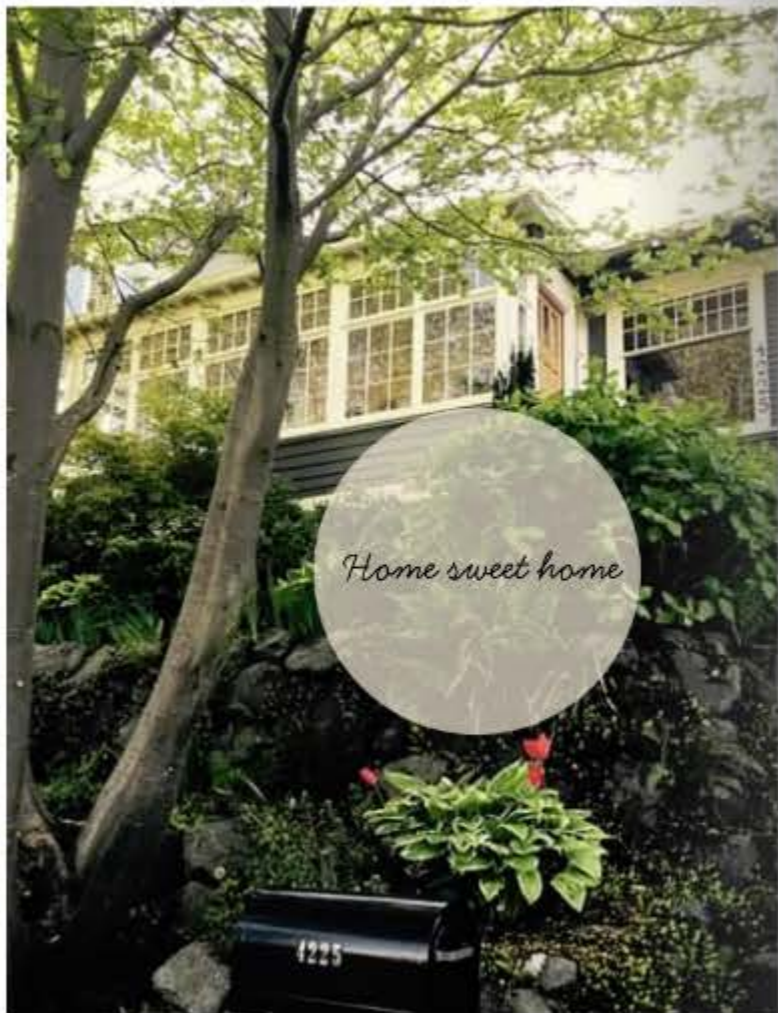
Aaron's Family

Aaron is a Seattle native, spending his school-aged years in a suburb just north of the city with his mom, dad, and older brother. There were many other kids the same age nearby and Aaron's earliest memories are of venturing out into greenbelts and backyards, riding bikes, music lessons with his brother, and pretty much running wild in the neighborhood. Aaron's parents were very supportive of his education and interests and taught him values of compassion and learning from early on.

Aaron has fond memories of family camping trips to the coast and Cascade Mountains and never-ending rides to soccer, basketball, and other activities with his mom. He also fondly remembers annual trips to pick and cut down a Christmas tree complete with an apple cider and candy cane for the ride home (this tradition lives on). Aaron's mom and dad both recently retired after long careers, and love doting on their first grandchild and joining us for weekend getaways.



We love our old house (built in 1912!), and have made it our home by filling it with lots of laughter and meals shared together with family, friends and even 75 of our closest neighbors during the annual block party. Myles, our spunky 14 year-old cat, has his favorite spots to curl up and snuggle and also be up high on a perch to catch the sunrise or just escape from the vacuum or curious toddler!



Home sweet home



Now more than ever we appreciate the quietness of our street, the elementary school and park just two blocks away, and the joy of having both the beach and our sailboat within a ten minute drive. Other neighborhood favorites include the toddler play time at the community center, a delicious local pizza joint, a pub popular with fisherman and coffee shops galore.



We love holiday traditions!



*Christmas tree cutting and admiring!
Cooking a Thanksgiving feast
Costumes for Halloween*



*Sailing adventures
Sporting events
Supper clubs*





Annual trips to Hawaii and Colorado to visit family and friends



*Frequent California trips
Snowshoe adventures
Zoos, aquariums and climbing walls
Local hikes and beaches*





THE
JOY
IS IN THE JOURNEY



*Hopes for
open adoption*

We have cherished welcoming Addie's birth family into our lives, and look forward to welcoming our second child's birth family to our home and table as well. Through shared stories and time together, we hope that open adoption will allow our children to explore their roots, and to grow lifelong connections to all parts of themselves.

We see Addie's birth family being an extra part of our extended family, and hope for the same with this open adoption. The extended family is very familiar for Elizabeth first as a baby, then as a kid and young woman she became part of her godmother Addie's large, Latino family (they refer to her as the red-headed granddaughter). It is tradition for us to spend birthdays, holidays, and other occasions with our extended families and close friends. We look forward to a bigger and happier table, and welcoming our child's birth family into our life to share in everyone's traditions and love for our child.



life
IS BEAUTIFUL

