MEG AND COREY - SEATTLE, WA

Meg and Corey at home in the backyard

Meg and Corey, wedding day Cama Beach State Park

OUR RELATIONSHIP

We met as roommates in a shared house in Seattle, dated for a little over 2 years, and married in April 2015. While meeting a bit later in life, we bonded over our love for adventuring, the outdoors, and camping. Our first date was a road trip to Redwood National Park.

When we're not camping or traveling a great distance, we are discovering different local funtivities, spending time with Meg's family, or investing in any number of home projects. We also love to have friends over, cook meals, share food, and spend time around a campfire.

Our love runs deep, but just as importantly our love is filled with humor. Corey will sing made-up show tunes for Meg, then walk around with a goofy outfit, or we'll dance around the house randomly and frequently. Meg has a very kind heart, and will always surprise Corey with simple love notes and bring Corey surprise treats home.

Brunch in San Francisco with amazing friends

Acadia National Park, Maine

Wedding day at Cama Beach State Park

Zip lining in the redwoods of California

Getting ready for a dinner party

Wedding Day, Cama Beach State Park

Summer trip to Everglades National Park - Visiting Corey's Mom and Stepdac

Winter trip to Westport, Washington

Winter Storm at Snoqualmie Falls

Meow Wolf art exhibit, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Spring trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico

Washington State Fair

Kayaking, Ft. Flagler State Park

Corey's dad visits us in Taos,New Mexico

Mewo Wolf art exhibit, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Enjoying the afternoon with our neighbor Marianne

Fall park walk with friends Cameron and Alar

MEG REFLECTS ON COREY

Corey and I got to know each other through our many roommate dates, which included several hikes, a holiday drag show, and numerous dinners with friends. Though I had grown up in the Seattle area, I'd lived in other states for about 10 years prior to moving home and meeting Corey. I worked on reconnecting with my local friends, and in the process, Corey welcomed me into the fold of his many close friends and art communities.

Connection and community are important to him and that's something I also value. Corey is one of the most thoughtful people I've ever met. An early memory I have is of looking out the window to see Corey dragging a lawn mower down the street. "Hmm," I thought, "that's a little out of the ordinary." It turns out that he was on his way to a friend's house, just two blocks away. She had very recently had a baby and he showed up to mow her lawn so that she'd have one less thing to worry about while caring for a newborn.

I appreciate that Corey is an open and honest communicator. He challenges me to be open and honest too. This helps us to navigate the challenges we face. Corey brings joy and laughter to our home, helping me to find silliness in the mundane, and to not take life so seriously all the time. I am so grateful for Corey as we continue life together.

COREY REFLECTS ON MEG

From when Meg first moved into our shared house, to when we first started going out on "roommate dates," I was always very comfortable around Meg. When I said, "I do," I never doubted this was someone I wanted to spend the rest of my life with. While we do go through our ups and downs, as all people in relationships experience, I'd never been with someone who loves me with complete trust and their whole heart, until I met Meg.

We constantly encourage and challenge each other to be our best selves, and always support each other when times are challenging. We both love adventuring, which could be as simple as walking through the neighborhood, or as adventurous as crawling up a forest service road, searching for the most tranquil camping spot.

I am also very fortunate to have married into Meg's family, most of whom still live in the area, and with whom we spend a lot of time throughout the year. Now when I hear someone say, "They've helped me become the best version of myself," I understand what they mean.

Summer trip to Denali National Park, Alaska

MEG IN HER WORDS

I'm a middle school teacher who loves to hike, camp, read, bake, write letters, and plan adventures.

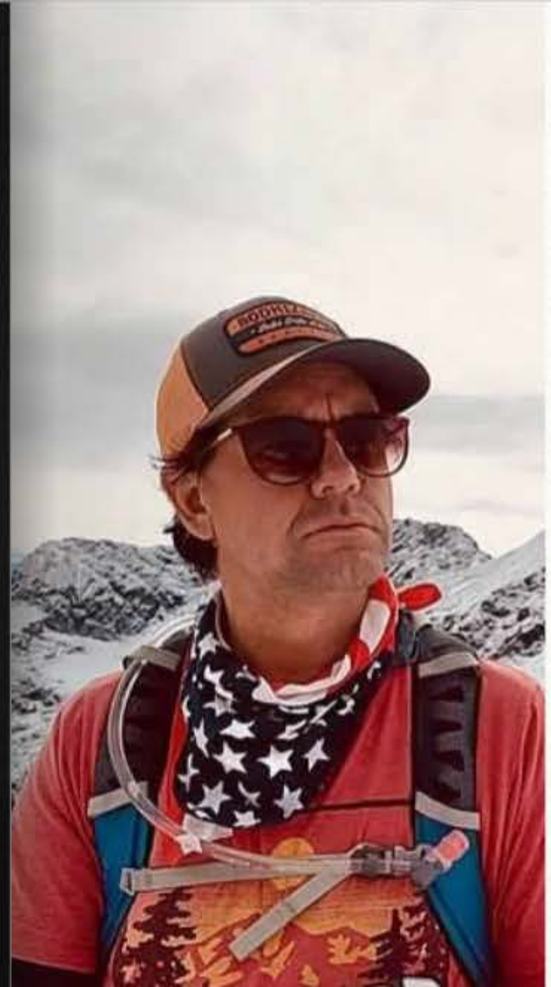
Fun Facts About Meg

+ I've lived in 5 different states around the country.
+ I used to teach at an outdoor science school.
+ I became well-known for my Chaco sandal tan.
+ I read voraciously, and usually more than one book at a time.
+ I ove to bake, especially different cookie varieties
+ I've traveled to 25 of the 63 National Parks, and hope to add more to that list.
+ I've been attending my large family reunion every summer of my life.

I'm a Pacific Northwest native and grew up in the suburbs of Seattle. As the oldest of 5 children, I was often a second mother to my younger brothers and sisters. My childhood was full of soccer, ballet, Little League, and riding bikes around the neighborhood. One of my favorite childhood memories was going on surprise ferry trips with my parents, brothers, and sisters to local parks and beaches on Puget Sound.

My experience volunteering for an organization called AIDS Alabama, and my time spent teaching at an environmental science camp, have been two of my most formative experiences. They helped me to be a better advocate for others, think outside the box, and be more creative. These are values I continue to practice in my work and my everyday life.

I'm positive, patient, and a good listener. I love spending time outdoors and getting lost in a good book. I enjoy sharing time and food with groups of family and friends. I try to support the people in my community with letters, meals, or other help whenever someone is going through a challenging time.



COREY IN HIS WORDS

I'm an artist, gardener, cook, sculptor, photographer, and product manager, always busy working on many projects.

Fun Facts About Corey

+ I can fix almost anything in the house, after a "short" tutorial.
+ I love cooking meals for others.
+ I enjoy exploring random forest service roads for camping spots.
+ I've volunteered at 6 different large scale arts festivals.
+ I love gardening and landscaping.
+ I can a lot of what I grow, and give most of it away.
+ I'm usually the one who knows the least about sports ball.
+ I'm always trying to get a laugh out of Meg, and am usually sucessfull!

I'm a Colorado native and Seattle local. I arrived in 2004 and have lived here ever since. I grew up with my mom, stepdad, brother, stepsisters, and grandma through age 12, then moved back to live with my dad in Colorado until I left for college.

I've always been on the creative side. This can take the form of cooking, gardening, landscaping, photography, or helping out other artists. I also have a garage full of tools to experiment and tinker with. I've been involved in the arts for as long as I can remember and have volunteered with many different arts organizations over the years.

I also love to learn, love to be outside, and am always watching how-to videos, reading books, and trying different plant and mineral identification apps. I also use my love for constant learning to find ways to improve our home and help others with their needs, such as fixing a stuck computer or figuring out new software.

I enjoy entertaining and cooking for people whenever I can. This could be at home or over a campfire, and I always send home extra food with the guests. I will drop what I am doing to help a friend in need. One of the best ways I have been described was at our wedding. During the speeches a close friend said, "Corey is very kind and loyal, when he is on your side, he is on your side for life."

Meg's sister, brother-in-law, and nephew visit.
They live a mile away!

Corey's dad from Colorado, Peter, and Kay visit for a seafood feast

Our home of seven+ years is situated in south Seattle. If we could use one word to explain our neighborhood, it would be, community. We are within one mile of the oldest community center in Seattle, and are very close with all the neighbors around us. We host yearly neighborhood picnics and gather for neighborhood cleanups.

Being in the south end, we are also one of the more diverse neighborhoods in Seattle. We have a variety of international grocery stores, restaurants, coffee shops, and retail close to our home. We live within walking distance to a number of parks, schools, and Puget Sound. We are also very fortunate to have family living close by with young children.

2022 New Year's Eve neighborhood event

Day trip to Vashon Island, Washington

New camping wood delivered

Our house

Backyard garden area

OUR HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD

OUR TRADITIONS

While we celebrate major holidays and most birthdays with family, we also enjoy many of our own traditions. Every summer we organize several camping trips. These include a decade-long summer solstice campout in a very special spot, and "Family Camp," a weekend-long camping trip to the Cascade foothills with several friends, their kids, and pets. We also join Meg's large extended family at their annual reunion each July in Seaside, Oregon. This tradition has been going on for 40 years! We will also spend a weekend every September with Meg's aunt and uncle at their friend's annual shrimp boil and camp out.

Every year, for at least one major holiday, we will visit Corey's family in Colorado and if the visit is at Christmas time, we will enjoy a very extravagant homemade New Mexican feast with Corey's family friends!

Corey's dad and friends visiting from Colorado

Visiting Corey's mom and stepdad in Florida

Christmas with Meg's Family who live close by

Meg's grandmother's 100th birthday

Annual shrimp broil and camping at Ft. Flagler State Park with family and friends

Hiking on Meg's namesake tria

First of many garden harvests from our garder

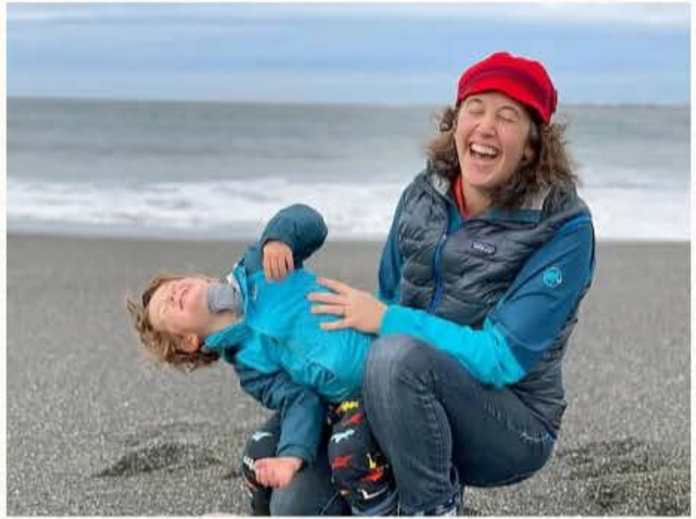
Meg's cousin's wedding in Spokane

One of many family dinners at Meg's parents' house

Annual Christmas choir concert with Meg's family

Quick stop on our way in to Denali National Park

DREAMS FOR OUR CHILD



Meg and family friend, Sully, sharing a funny beach moment in Westpor

Weekend baby-sitting our friends' kids, Carkeet Park

Corey and Holly comparing their baby stomachs

Corey losing to 3 year olds

Salmon berry picking with friends

Our hope is that our child grows up to be happy, compassionate, responsible, hard-working, and knowing they are loved. We look forward to sharing our sense of adventure and love of learning with them, helping them to meet the world and all people with an open, loving, and inclusive heart. We want to expose our child to many different people and cultures, and help them to become the best version of themselves. We look forward to creating new family traditions together with our child and their birth family, while honoring existing traditions.

Annual family renuion, meeting Finn, visiting friends in San Francisco, visiting Florida, Women's March in Seattle, Meg as a baby

Corey working with his dac

At the beach with Corey's mom and stepdac

Backyard meal with Meg's parents

Our intention with adoption from the beginning was to sign up with OAFS due to their roots in supporting all types of adopting families, and in their mission in supporting the best outcomes for the adoptee through open adoption. We hope to have an open and positive relationship with the birth family and foster this relationship with the child so they feel they have access to their entire history. We desire open communication and support for the child at all stages of development. We look forward to a supportive role, and a positive connection with the child's birth family.

OUR OPEN ADOPTION ASPIRATIONS

Meg's cousins and sibilngs out to lunch whie attending the annual family reunion in Seaside, Or

Meg and Kay watching the sunset at our favorite camping spo