

# Josh, Anjie & Sam



hello



We are Josh, Anjie and Sam.  
Thank you for taking the time to learn about our family. We hope  
you get a sense of who we are and what is important to us.



OUR  
STORY



We met in the summer of 2007 when Josh attended an event that Anjie was hosting through her work. We began working at the same company in early 2008 and quickly became friends. A year later, after losing a bet on a friendly game of bowling, Anjie agreed to join Josh on a first date on Valentine's Day, 2009. It obviously turned out to be the best lost bet ever!



Josh proposed on Memorial Day, 2013 after we returned early from a rained-out camping weekend with friends. Leading up to the proposal, he scheduled a full day of events that held good memories, including a game of bowling, where it all began!

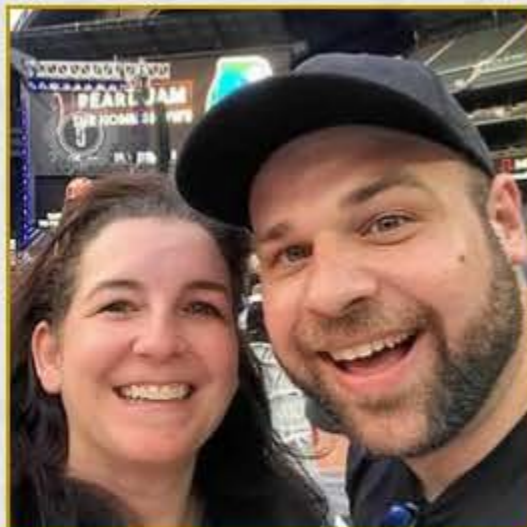
We were married in October of that same year in downtown Seattle, then headed out to Hawaii for our honeymoon. We lived in a tiny apartment our first year of marriage, in order to save up for our first home that we bought in September of 2014.

## More About Us

We love doing life together, whether we're working on the house, traveling to new places, getting outside for a hike, or cheering on the Seahawks.

Our story includes pregnancy loss and infertility, but also the miracle of our biological son, Sam. We are stronger together because of what we have been through and are so grateful for each others' strength throughout this journey. In our hearts we know that we are now ready to add to our family through open adoption.

Sam was born in December of 2016 and is a joy in our lives. We are certain that he will make the best big brother - he's very excited about it!



We look for the good in every situation, even the hard ones, and are grateful for family and close friends to walk with us along the way.

From Anjie: I appreciate that Josh is hard-working, funny, and the most amazing Dad. He loves me for exactly who I am and makes me feel safe. He would do anything for his family, a friend (or a stranger!), can fix almost anything, and tells the best Dad jokes.

From Josh: I appreciate that Anjie is compassionate, thoughtful, and gracious. She radiates beauty from within, and can talk with anyone - making her a wonderful host. Her superpower is being a mom - it is a joy to watch her with Sam (and other kids).





## About Anjie

I am an Executive Assistant at a large asset management firm in Seattle. I support some portfolio managers and a few teams of people as well. I love my job and the flexibility it gives me to have a healthy work/life balance.

My hobbies include: Loving the mom life, photography, spending time with family and friends, getting outside, and games of any kind. (Card games, board games, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, and whatever games our son Sam thinks up.) I also love watching a good romantic comedy, or anything where I can't guess how it's going to end.

I have wanted to be a mom my whole life and am loving every minute of it so far.



## Fun Facts

I lived in Wales for a year, working as a waitress/bartender.  
← (At the Guinness factory while on a quick trip to Dublin.)

I worked on Cruise Ships for three years. →

I'm a huge Seahawks fan, and have also had a long-standing love for the Mariners.

I love to travel - I've been to 36 states and 34 countries.

I will bake for any reason, or no reason at all.

One of my favorite weekends of the year is when the Blue Angels come to town.  
(Also, I took this photo.) →

I have the uncanny ability to remember TV/Movie quotes and actors - bring on team Trivia!

← I love to spend time at the beach - even in Washington.



# Anjie's Story

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I grew up in a suburb near Seattle in Washington State, and currently live within 15 miles of my childhood home. I have an older brother that still lives in the area as well with his wife and three young adult kids at home or nearby. My dad worked as an engineer in the aerospace industry and my mom stayed at home with us until I was in junior high. I can remember playing outside with my brother and all the neighborhood kids every day until we heard my Dad's trademark whistle calling us home. We always had pets when I was a kid - dogs, hamsters, rabbits, turtles, fish, salamanders and even a few mice once.

We went on a lot of family road trips and camping weekends. I was a Brownie and then a Girl Scout and was involved in every type of team sport, depending on the season. We went to church every Sunday and Youth Group on Wednesdays - where I met many of the friends I still have today. I took piano lessons and dance classes, played with LEGOs and dug in the dirt. It was a pretty normal childhood and I'm grateful that my parents let me try many different activities.

I earned an AA degree in Early Childhood Education and worked in childcare for many years - in daycares, as a nanny for a few different families and as the director of the kids' programs on cruise ships. Now, as an Executive Assistant, I find myself using a lot of the same skills I used when I watched children. If only I could tell the adults to go take a nap when they get grumpy!



My 'Girls' Group' (the best group of gals that also all happen to be moms) has had a significant impact on my life. They have taught me to be vulnerable, to ask for help when I need it and to be my true self, even when it feels like the hardest thing. They have prayed for me, celebrated with me, cried with me and kept me accountable for all the things that matter. We watch each other's kids, feed each other's pets and take vacations together. Our husbands and kids have all spent time together and they are the best nine other moms to love on our family.

I value honesty, integrity, hospitality and community. I do my best to take care of others and believe that everyone deserves a chance. I am a rule-follower and can easily become discouraged when others don't play fair, but I also understand that there is room for grace in every situation.



## About Josh

As an extrovert, I enjoy being around people and getting to share stories and experiences with others. Community is important, and I value my relationships - especially those with my family.

I am a Certified Professional Accountant, and I work for a local firm, providing tax services for individuals, businesses, and non-profit orgs. It's rewarding being a trusted advisor to a wide range of different people and organizations.

Outside of the office, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, improving upon or trying out a new recipe in the kitchen, tinkering in the garage, and being outside as much as I can - whether it be hiking, camping, fishing, working in the yard, or simply relaxing on the deck.



## Fun Facts

Once I caught a salmon in a river with just my hands; then threw it to a wild grizzly bear. No joke.

A guilty pleasure is a sci-fi or fantasy book or TV show/movie.

"Welcome home" videos on social media almost always make me cry.

I enjoy a good-natured practical joke, and am a purveyor of "dad jokes."

Making a big spreadsheet brings me immense satisfaction.

I believe the best day of the week to have tacos is the one that ends in "y."

Whenever "Party in the USA" plays, I. Must. Dance.

I am a big fan of doing random acts of kindness.

I've worked in agriculture, auto repair, and food service all through school, and learned just as much from those jobs as I did in the classroom.



# Josh's Story

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Growing up, my childhood was spent in the Puget Sound region. We often went on camping and RV trips, always had several pets (including a horse at one point), attended and volunteered at church regularly, and frequently visited extended family. I played outdoors a lot, spending countless hours riding bikes and making forts as a child, and fishing and going on overnight hikes with friends as I got older. I learned to play a few instruments a little, which gave me an appreciation for music.

My dad was a refrigeration engineer and my mom was a nurse, though she took a break to take care of us kids and homeschool us until junior high. At the start of high school, my family moved to eastern Washington. My parents and sister (with her husband) continue to live "on the other side of the mountains" in the Spokane area. We continue to keep in touch frequently and see each other as often as we can. My sister and I were best friends growing up and still remain very close.

I earned my transfer degree from Big Bend Community College and completed undergrad studies at Central Washington University. After college, I started working at an accounting firm in Seattle. There was a great girl who worked there too - we're married now! Nowadays I still work in accounting, though at a different firm, where I've been practicing for over ten years.



Over the years, I've become close with a "tribe" of friends where we've spent time together and supported each other through life events, whether it be the loss of family members (such as my younger brother a few years ago), the celebration of new life, and achievements. Beyond this core group are many other community circles of coworkers, fellow church attendees, and friend groups.

I love people - I try to see the good in each person and understand what makes them "tick." I believe in doing a task with excellence, having empathy and being kind, and the power of humor. My strongest qualities are patience and persistence; sometimes I focus too much on details and need to lighten up.

Being a dad has been an incredibly rewarding and honoring experience. I would love the opportunity to grow our family - to see our "miracle" son Sam have a sibling like I did, for my wonderful wife to be the most amazing mom to two kids, and for me to love and care for another child.





## About Sam

Sam is kind, smart, funny, and one of the most thoughtful people we know. He loves his friends and his family and will talk to anyone who will stop to listen. His favorite foods are most any vegetable or a good popsicle.

Sam enjoys school, especially math. He plays soccer, basketball, swims like a fish, and is up for any adventure. He loves to hang out with his friends, and we often have them over for play dates.

He likes to ride his bike and go to the beach to throw rocks in the water and search for sea glass. He gets excited to head to the nearby park and going out for donuts on weekends.

He tells great jokes, remembers every piece of information he hears and doesn't miss a thing. He is a great helper and will be the most amazing, caring and loving big brother.





## The 3 of Us!

Time spent together as a family is our number one priority. We often choose to get outside, even if it's raining, which happens a lot in the Seattle area! We're creating life-long memories, growing together and just having good, plain old fun.





# Home

We bought our home specifically for its capacity to host groups of friends or family at any time, and are happy to report that it has fulfilled its destiny on many occasions.

Our family room is often a (fun) mess after friends have stopped by or Sam has had a sleep over.

## Our Home & Neighborhood

We live in an amazing neighborhood just north of Seattle. Many families with kids of all ages live on our street, and everyone is so friendly. We even shut the street down for an annual block party. Many of Sam's school friends live close by and are often over for play dates. Our home is within walking distance of multiple parks, restaurants, the library, playgrounds, and wooded trails.

We have a fenced-in yard that is perfect for hosting barbecues, watching the birds, bunnies and squirrels come through, or a quick game of soccer. Josh takes very good care of the yard, and Sam is great at helping.



WHEN WE  
HAVE  
EACH OTHER,  
WE HAVE  
EVERYTHING

Cousins, Grandparents, Aunt Lisa & Uncle Greg (Anjie's Family)



FAMILY

We cherish our family and friends. We value their love, wisdom, and vulnerability. We laugh with them, cry with them, and raise our children together. We can't imagine doing life without them and are glad to know they are all walking alongside us on our adoption journey.

Grandpa Jeff & Grandma Mimi (Josh's parents)



Nikki, Adam and cousin Amanda (Josh's sister & family)

Grandpa Jerry & Grandma Sandy (Anjie's parents)



Nathan, Andrew, Sophi & Derrick (Anjie's brother Greg's kids)





**FRIENDS**





### We can't forget the cat!


We adopted Turbo in June of 2023, just after he turned one. It took him 2 seconds to become part of our family and we have a lot of fun with him. His favorite place to sleep is with Sam.



## Family Traditions

We have many special traditions as a family: We take multiple camping trips with the same friends every summer. Easter, Thanksgiving, and salmon season (Sam's favorite) are spent with extended family. We go trick-or-treating with all the neighborhood buddies. Birthdays are a big deal, and any holiday is the perfect reason to bake cookies. We also love a good Santa photo.





## Dreams for Our Child

Our hearts' desire for our children is that they know they are unconditionally loved, valued, and supported. We want them to follow their passion, whatever that may be. We will do our best to expose them to diverse experiences and will teach them to develop a respect for all people. We will nurture their curiosity and admit when we don't have all the answers.

We will model kindness, humor, and integrity, with the intent of instilling these things in our children.

We hope they will find safety and security in family, friends and community. We will offer every opportunity that we are able to, including education, health, spirituality, sports and other activities, to the extent that they form an interest in any of these things.

We dream all of this for them while also letting them have fun and supporting them as they learn to become their best selves.

## Open Adoption Aspirations

Our family has so much love to give, and we wish to be able to offer this love and support to a child and their birth family. We are choosing open adoption as it's the best way for an adopted child to know their whole story and be able to live into it. We hope for a fruitful, honest relationship with a birth family - one of genuine friendship without a feeling of obligation to be in each others' lives.

Families come in all forms. We will honor the fact that this will be a unique, and sometimes complex situation. We know that we have the vulnerability, grace, commitment, hospitality, and respect for others to thrive in an open adoption relationship, even when we may not always know exactly what to do.

We believe that there can never be too many people loving and cherishing a child, so we look forward to welcoming any and all of our child's birth family as part our own.

LOVE MAKES *a* FAMILY



**Thank You!**  
 We appreciate  
 you taking the  
 time to get to  
 know us.  
 -Josh, Anjie  
 & Sam

