

# KATE AND DENNIS





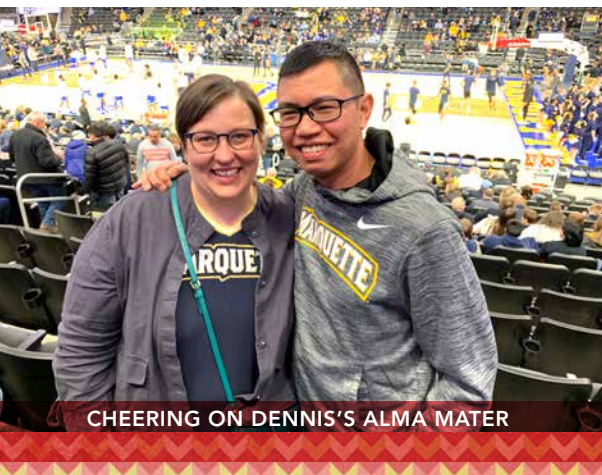
HELLO  
—AND—  
WELCOME!



NOT SURE WHO ENJOYS THE BACK YARD MORE, US OR THE PUPS!

WE ARE

KATE AND DENNIS



CHEERING ON DENNIS'S ALMA MATER

FROM  
THE  
DC  
AREA



CELEBRATING  
OUR 5TH  
WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY

WE'RE EXCITED TO SHARE A BIT ABOUT OURSELVES, THE LIFE WE'VE BUILT TOGETHER OVER THE PAST 12 YEARS, AND HOW WE HOPE TO PARENT.

Together, we love to travel, play with our dogs, eat delicious food, and cheer on our favorite sports teams. We both have fond memories of growing up with our siblings and cousins and love being involved in the lives of our nine nieces and nephews.

We always envisioned a future that included raising a child and come to adoption after many years of unsuccessful infertility treatments. *As we think about expanding our family through adoption, we understand the importance of and believe in the value of open adoption and will ensure that your child has a connection to your culture and history.*

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about us. Should you choose us, we promise your child will grow up with unconditional love and support from us, our families, and friends.

OUR FAVORITES  
WE'LL DO WITH YOUR CHILD

**PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD**

**DENNIS:** Museum

**KATE:** Beach

**CHILDREN'S BOOK**

**DENNIS:** Berenstain Bears

**KATE:** Spot the Dog

**CHILDREN'S TV SHOW**

**DENNIS:** The Flintstones

**KATE:** Mr. Roger's  
Neighborhood





DATE NIGHT IN DC

## OUR STORY



EXPLORING HONG KONG AFTER SEEING FAMILY

We met online in 2009. Kate was initially impressed because Dennis managed to pick one of her favorite restaurants for brunch when planning their first date. Over delicious donuts (a food group of its own for Dennis!), we bonded over shared interests – travel, exploring our city, and our love of college basketball.

Over time, we realized we had much more in common, including values of love, respect, and kindness. And, in 2013, we celebrated our marriage with family and friends right where we had our first date four years prior.

Since then, we've built our life around these bonds and values. We've rooted ourselves in the DC area in a town known for its close-knit and diverse community with the hopes of raising a child here – surrounded by supportive friends, neighbors, and family.

## A FEW MORE FUN FACTS!

### WE LIKE TO COLLECT

**DENNIS:** Bobbleheads

**KATE:** Pottery

### HOBBY

**DENNIS:** Running

**KATE:** Cooking



CHEERING ON DENNIS AS HE RAN A VIRTUAL MARATHON DURING THE PANDEMIC



DENNIS IS TRULY A KID AT HEART, ESPECIALLY AT DISNEY WORLD



# MEET KATE



BOAT RIDE THROUGH PRAGUE



AT A FRIEND'S WEDDING CELEBRATION



LUNCH IN MENDOZA, ARGENTINA

My friends say I had a magical midwestern childhood, growing up the youngest of three kids on our family farm in Illinois. My most frequent babysitters were my grandparents, and summers were spent at county fairs with my extended family.

In addition to strong family values, I was fortunate to have parents who wanted each of us to become our own person, even if that led us away from our upbringing.

For me, that meant leaning into my love of learning and exploring by studying abroad in college and living in Japan for two years as a high school English teacher. Travel continues to be a large part of my life, having visited over 30 countries, and I can't wait to travel the world with a child!



WATER BREAK DURING A HIKE

## ABOUT MY 9 TO 5 AND VOLUNTEERING

I've spent my career working for non-profits in DC, raising money to support their work. I love working every day, knowing that I'm helping make the world a better place.

I also believe that it is important to give back to your local community through volunteer work. I help run our local farmer's markets and give my time to other groups as they run food drives, health fairs, and other community events.



✓ NETFLIX  
● YOUTUBE

○ MUSIC  
✓ PODCASTS

✓ PIE  
● CAKE

✓ HOT COFFEE  
● ICED COFFEE

✓ CALL  
● TEXT

○ BIG PARTY  
✓ SMALL PARTY

✓ CITY  
● ISLAND

✓ THEATER  
● HOME MOVIE

## THIS OR THAT





HEADING OUT FOR A RIDE



DENNIS WITH HIS RUNNING CLUB

# MEET DENNIS



I'm a first-generation American with my parents emigrating to Maryland from the Philippines. They worked hard to ensure my two brothers and I had a good life with a strong education.

They also made sure that our extended family and culture surrounded us. My grandparents lived across the street from us, and I would spend my summers in New York and California with my aunts, uncles, and cousins.

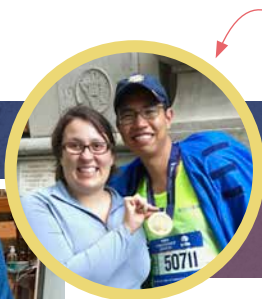
These summer adventures sparked my love of travel and diverse experiences. I went to college in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, studied abroad in Belgium, and, after working in Colorado for a ski season (one of my favorite hobbies), settled back in Maryland, working for the state government as a financial examiner.



EVEN MANNY ENJOYS TAKING IN A GAME!



DATE NIGHT IN GREECE



DENNIS COMPLETED THE NYC MARATHON!

## ABOUT MY FAMILY AND HOBBIES

I'm fortunate to live close to my parents, brothers, and their growing families – spending weekends cheering on our nieces and nephews in their school activities and babysitting when needed.

Outside of work, I enjoy running and cycling, having finished ten marathons and two half-ironman triathlons. I am also active in our local Catholic Church, participating in their men's club, which raises money for the school.

### THIS OR THAT

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☒ HOME MOVIE







SHOWING OUR MARQUETTE SPIRIT AT AN ALUMNI EVENT



## OUR LIFE TOGETHER



A BROADWAY WEEKEND IN NYC!



TOURING THE PARTHENON IN ATHENS, GREECE

### ADVENTURES, BIG OR SMALL, BRING US A LOT OF JOY.

We took our first trip together to New York City for a long weekend, a few months after we started dating, and have never stopped. While traveling, we make a point to explore our interests while there. This led to us taking cooking classes in Italy and Thailand, attending concerts and sporting events in Greece, New York, Hong Kong, and Dennis running marathons in Berlin and Istanbul.

### WHEN AT HOME, WE'RE BIG BASEBALL FANS

– Kate cheering for the Washington Nationals, Dennis for the Baltimore Orioles! In the winter, you can find us cheering for the Marquette University basketball team, often traveling back to Milwaukee to see games.

### WE ALSO MAKE A POINT OF REGULARLY SEEING OUR NIECES AND NEPHEWS,

having started birthday weekend sleepovers with each of them when they were in grade school, and continuing them now even though they are in high school and college.



GO NATS!



DENNIS CELEBRATING HIS NEPHEW AND GODSON'S THIRD BIRTHDAY

## WORKING PARENTS WORK-LIFE BALANCE

We are both fortunate to have understanding employers who allow us to balance work and home life. The pandemic moved us both to a work-from-home capacity with flexible work hours, and both of our employers offer generous paid parental leave that we plan to use when we welcome a child into our family.







KATE'S BUTTERFLY GARDEN  
IN OUR BACK YARD

We love the location of our community. We are a 15-minute metro ride away from the National Mall and the Smithsonian museums, making exploring the latest museum exhibit or taking in a theater show a regular activity for us.

Further afield, we're a 2-3 hour drive from the mountains and ocean, making for easy weekend getaways.

WE LIVE IN A COZY  
SINGLE-FAMILY HOME  
LOCATED JUST OUTSIDE  
OF WASHINGTON, DC.

## WHERE WE CALL HOME

We bought our home in 2016 after falling in love with the large yard and space to entertain. Our two dogs love playing in the backyard, and we love being within walking distance of multiple town parks and our community pool.

Our town is a warm, welcoming and diverse community, with many of the neighbors who came to welcome us during our first weekend here becoming good friends over the years. There are block parties, playgroups, holiday-themed parades, and town celebrations that bring everyone together regularly.



HOME SWEET HOME



OUR COMMUNITY POOL



MANNY AND ROXY WERE  
ON THE NICE LIST!

## WOOF!

We've adopted two lovable dogs into our family. Manny, a 10-year-old labrador/hound mix, joined our family shortly after we married and endears himself to all he meets, especially Dennis's run club, where he is considered a member. Roxy, a two-year-old border collie/pointer mix, joined our family during the pandemic. She spends her days chasing squirrels and playing fetch in our backyard. Both dogs have gone through extensive training with a local trainer.







A DC TRIP WITH  
OUR NIECE  
FROM ILLINOIS



THANKSGIVING WITH DENNIS'S FAMILY IS BIG,  
BOISTEROUS AND FILLED WITH LAUGHTER

ONE OF OUR FAVORITE  
ROLES IN LIFE IS AUNT,  
UNCLE, OR GODPARENT TO  
THE MANY CHILDREN IN  
OUR LIVES.

WE LOVE THAT OUR  
HOME HAS BECOME A  
SECOND HOME TO MANY  
OVER THE YEARS.

## THE PEOPLE WE LOVE

One of the things that brought us together is how important our families are to us - regardless of how near or far they live. With Kate's family being in IL and Dennis's two brothers at times living far away - sometimes as far away as China, this has meant making traveling to see them or welcoming them to our home a priority in our lives.

We travel to IL at least three times a year to visit Kate's parents, along with her brother and sister and their families. We've also created a tradition where at least one niece or nephew (there are four in total) spends a week with us each summer - exploring DC, visiting the ocean, and getting to know us and our lives.

While Dennis's parents and siblings now live nearby in Maryland and Virginia, his brothers, along with their families, have often lived further away due to their roles with the military or government. That said, **we regularly jump at the opportunity to visit them and spend time with our nieces and nephews, even when it meant traveling to Russia or China.**



A FAMILY PHOTO OF KATE'S FAMILY



DENNIS TRAINING THE NEXT  
GENERATION OF RUNNERS



SNUGGLES WITH  
AUNT KATE



## LET'S GET CRACKIN'

Each year we host an annual summer crab feast for Dennis's large extended family. Three generations come together to join in of Maryland's most beloved summer traditions. Over the years, Kate has become a pro at picking crabs, and even Kate's midwestern family joins in on the fun from time to time.

FAMILY CRAB FEAST ON OUR DECK





# AS PARENTS

## **WE PROMISE TO LOVE A CHILD UNCONDITIONALLY.**

We will nurture, guide, and support them through the ups and downs of life.

**WE PROMISE TO SUPPORT THEIR DREAMS** and allow them to chart the path they desire. We will give them the freedom to discover their own interests while reassuring them that they don't have to go it alone.

**WE PROMISE TO LAUGH, PLAY, AND MAYBE EVEN GET A LITTLE BIT DIRTY.** Baking on a rainy Saturday, playing in the snow, building forts in the living room – we'll never be too busy to get down on the floor and play.

**WE PROMISE TO SHOW THEM THE WORLD.** Whether through travel, books, or local adventures, we will seek opportunities to explore, learn and experience new things.

**WE PROMISE TO INTRODUCE THEM TO OUR FAMILY TRADITIONS** – Christmases with Kate's family and crab feasts with Dennis's family, while also creating new traditions that hold special meaning to us.

**OVERALL, WE PROMISE TO PARENT WITH THE GOAL OF A CHILD BECOMING A CARING AND THOUGHTFUL ADULT.**



AT A FRIEND'S WEDDING





*OUR  
SINCERE*  
**THANKS**  

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*FOR YOU*

**W**e want to thank you again for reading and considering our profile. We know that the choices ahead must be difficult and we hope that having a little view into our world has shown you how much love we share and how much love we have to give a child. We would be honored if you choose us and help to make us what we have always wanted to be – parents.