

## Family Facts

**Location:** South Florida

**Marital Status:** Married 12 Years

**Children:** Willow - 1.5 years old

**Ethnicity:** Caucasian

**Education:** Tim - College Degree, Rachel - College Degree

**Occupation:** Tim - Stay-at-Home Father, Rachel - Director of Human Resources



## **Dear Friend:**

Although we haven't met yet, we already admire you. Thank you for taking the time to read our story and for considering us as you make the loving and difficult decision of who will parent your child. We are Tim & Rachel and through our story you will be able to see the love we have for each other, our daughter and our future child.



The best decision we ever made as a couple was the decision to grow our family through adoption. From our first date we discussed with each other how important being parents is to both of us. We tried unsuccessfully to get pregnant for a couple of years and even went through fertility treatments. What we learned through the process was that our children were going to be gifts. Adoption is the one thing that has felt the most natural to us in our pursuit to build a family.

We were blessed and privileged when our daughter Willow's birth mother chose us to raise and love her. We brought Willow home in early 2015 and we have loved every moment of being her parents. Willow is

almost two now and ready for a sibling! The decision to adopt again feels so natural, as if it was our life's journey all along. Our hearts are bursting with love and we can't wait to meet our next child.

We want you to know how much we respect you and admire you for the courage, love and strength you are showing your child in this decision you are choosing for them. We know that you want what is best for your child and we pray that you will find us to be all that you hope for your child.



**About Us:** Tim was born & raised in South Florida, while Rachel was born & raised in Montana. Our paths crossed in Montana when we met in college. We knew from the beginning we would be together. After dating for 2 years, Tim proposed and we were married in October 2004.

Willow joined our family when we adopted her domestically. The last 2 years have been the most enjoyable years of our marriage. We absolutely love being parents and raising our family together. We both came from very close-knit, loving families and family is very important to us. We cannot wait to add another child to ours.



**About Tim:** I worked for a non-profit organization for 10 years, managing residential care for adults with developmental disabilities. Today, I have the job I always hoped for, to be a father. After Willow was born, Rachel & I made the decision that I would stay home and raise Willow. Several factors played into this decision, but ultimately it was the best for our family.

Willow keeps me very busy and always on my toes. Everyday is a new adventure and I love watching Willow learn about the world around her. I know our second child will make my days a little more full, but I've never been more excited for a challenge. Aside from being a father, I love college football, kayaking, and making people laugh. I am a prankster at heart so naturally my favorite holiday is April Fool's Day.



**What Rachel Says About Tim:** The first moment I saw Tim gently cradle our tiny newborn daughter I fell in love with him all over again. Tim is an exceptional father because he is an amazing man. Tim is loyal and genuine and truly cares about others. He always makes me feel safe because he is a nurturer by heart. I love how dedicated he is to our family. Everything he does is for Willow and me. We are very lucky and loved and best of all, always laughing. I know he is the best father because I see it in my daughter's face. She loves and adores her Daddy and as a mother I couldn't ask for more than to see her light up when he walks in the room.

**About Rachel:** I am the Director of Human Resources for a local private company, but first and foremost I am a mother. I am blessed to work for a company that affords me the flexibility to have a very strong work-life balance. Because Tim is a stay-at-home Dad, he affords me the ability to focus all of my energy when I am home on being present with Willow. I love coming home to play tea party with her, go for a walk or just talk about our days while we play with her favorite toy. Weekends are my favorite because it is when I get to be home to do the routine activities like breakfast and nap. Expanding our family with our second child will fill my life even more and I cannot wait. Aside from being a mother, I also enjoy fitness and wellness and have a passion for running and cooking. Traditions are very important to me, so naturally my favorite holiday is Christmas.



**What Tim Says About Rachel:** Rachel has the biggest loving heart, widest open mind, a genuine passion for life and is intensely loyal. I fell in love with these traits over a decade ago, and unsurprisingly, these same traits make her such a great mom today. Rachel's smile still lights up my day when I need uplifting and her support has always been the foundation for us to build upon. The highlight of my days are watching our Willow giggle and smile when mommy gets home. I dream of the day I can see Rachel holding both of our children and sharing the rest of my life with them. I truly am a wealthy man, not because of money but my family is my greatest treasure.



**About Willow:** Willow is our happy little girl. She will be 2 years old in early 2017 and is full of energy and so much joy. She is a girl who knows what she wants and loves to explore her independence. Willow enjoys reading and will sit for hours flipping through books, looking at pictures and telling stories. She is a talker and has a pretty good vocabulary for her age. She also loves music and singing, as a family we attend a toddler music class together. Willow is affectionate towards people she knows and loves. She likes to blow kisses, give hugs and says hello. Her blue eyes, curls and infectious smile steal everyone's heart. Willow has an enthusiasm for life that fills our home with excitement and we know she will be the best big sister!





**Our Adventures:** As a family, we love to travel. We have been lucky to explore so much of the world together and now we especially enjoy sharing this passion with Willow. Today our adventures are closer to home, although Willow has been on a couple flights in her short life. Our new adventures include aquariums,



watching airplanes, anything outdoors and of course swimming and the beach. We also make frequent visits to Disney. Rachel has always been a Disney fanatic and Willow's affection for Mickey has inspired Tim to also learn to love the mouse.



**Our Family:** Tim was raised primarily by his Dad after his Mom passed away when he was 6 years old. Tim has three older siblings, two sisters and a brother, who all live with their spouses in South Florida. We also have five nephews and one niece ranging from college to kindergarten who we absolutely love. They are also all very good with Willow and she adores them as well. Tim's father remarried his sweetheart of 12 years, Dina, a couple of years ago, expanding our family even more. Sadly, in 2015 we lost Tim's father after a long battle with his health. We enjoy spending time with Tim's family often since everyone lives locally.

Rachel's family lives in Montana, however the distance does not keep us from having a very close relationship with them. Her parents have been married for over 35 years and her brother Zach just celebrated his one-year wedding anniversary to Karen. Since Willow joined our family we have been very blessed to see a lot more of Rachel's family. They are very involved in our lives and when we are not FaceTiming "Papa" and "Nana" (almost nightly) we are picking them up from the airport for a visit. Earlier this year when Willow was baptized, Zach was named her Godfather along with Tim's sister Missy who was named her Godmother. We enjoy spending time together with Rachel's family.



**Our Community:** We have a wonderful support system of family, friends, and colleagues. Everyone has been so supportive with our decision to adopt and welcomed Willow into their hearts with sincere enthusiasm. We are very lucky to have these people in our lives.

**Our Home:** We bought our first home almost 10 years ago in a community in West Broward County. Our neighborhood is very family friendly and has proven to be a great place to raise a family. Our home is not huge, but it is cozy and full of love with plenty of room for our growing family.



**Thank You:** We want to close by saying thank you. Whether it's us or another loving family you choose for your child, you are making the first and most important decision in your child's life. There is so much beauty in courage. If you choose us to raise your child, we will share with he or she just how much courage and love you demonstrated in your decision to place your child for adoption. You will forever be one of the most important people in your child's life. We presently have open communication with Willow's birth mom and have since birth. We are committed to upholding the same promise should that be your wish. We have so much love to share with a second child and we are very excited about continuing to grow our family.

-Tim, Rachel & Willow