

Our Story



Carla & Andy

hello!



Dear Expectant Mother,

Our names are Andy and Carla. We are delighted to introduce ourselves to you. The first thing we would like to tell you, “You are an amazing woman!” You are doing one of the greatest, most selfless acts of love: giving up someone so precious to you for their benefit.

We want you to know that for us, adoption is not Plan B. The desire to adopt grew in both of our hearts without the other knowing about it until one evening, I (Carla) mentioned something about wanting to adopt a baby. We went out for pizza and discussed this dream; we became SO excited!! From the time we realized that this was a dream we wanted to pursue, we have been completely enthused and have felt God’s blessing.

We have a large circle of friends and church family that are waiting with open arms to welcome your child. We want nothing more than for your baby to grow up in a safe and loving home. We will make sure that your baby has every advantage we can provide. Their physical and emotional needs will be our highest priority. We want your baby to have a childhood of wonderful memories such as playing ball with Mom and Dad, having puppies and kitties, licking the batter off the spoon, swimming on hot summer days, having friends over, going on family vacations, spending time with Grandpa and Grandma and cousins! (Obviously, we are excited!) Our desire for your child is that when they reach adulthood, they will have a good work ethic, a healthy self-esteem, and be able to face their lives with confidence.

If you choose us to be the adoptive parents of your child, we will be praying every day that you will feel peace with your difficult decision. We want to thank you for choosing to carry your child to full term and giving us a chance to become parents.



About Us



It all began when a Mississippi girl traveled down to Texas to teach school. There I met Andy, the love of my life. We became wonderful friends and soon realized we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. God has blessed us with a marriage that feels like a small piece of heaven on earth. We don't always look at everything the same, but there is never a doubt that we were meant for each other. We look forward to a lifetime of happiness.



AWESOME FRIENDS!



We have a lot of common interests and enjoy taking life on as a team. What makes us "us"? We love the simple pleasures of life like picking strawberries, taking rides in the old blue Chevy, working in the flowerbeds around our home, doing crafts in our garage workshop, having friends sit around the fire with us, and throwing something on the grill for supper. Small town living is part of who we are.

make ♥
EVERYDAY
♥ *special*

About Andy...

...by Carla



Andy is a wonderful man who, I believe, will make a fantastic father for any baby. He was raised by Godly parents who taught him to value honesty, generosity, and a good work ethic.

His acts of service are noticed by me in the many ways he helps around the home and supports me in all my dreams and brainstorm; by our elderly neighbors in the care he gives them; by my handicapped brother in the good times they have together; by his friends in the way he will quit work to lend a helping hand; by strangers in the way he will stop to help them on the side of the road.



Andy is an owner in a family-run business. He uses a large tractor and scraper to do various kinds of dirtwork. He is an excellent provider; I have no worries financially.



Andy has a hilarious sense of humor. He is sociable and values his friends and church family highly. Many an evening has been spent outside grilling and smoking meats and sharing laughter and conversation with family and friends.

Andy dreams of being a father and has told me, "I don't know who our baby will be, but I feel a strong love for them already."

I have the utmost respect and admiration for him. He is the love of my life and I can't imagine life without him. I believe any child will be blessed to have him as their father.

About Carla...

...by Andy

I have deep admiration for my wife, Carla. She has blessed my life in so many ways. She is fun and exciting to be with. Her positivity and enthusiasm for life is noticed by all. People know her as a kind and caring person who is always ready to help. It brings her joy to make someone's day happy.

She has been blessed with many talents in cooking, decorating, and landscaping. She also enjoys singing together with her friends from church.

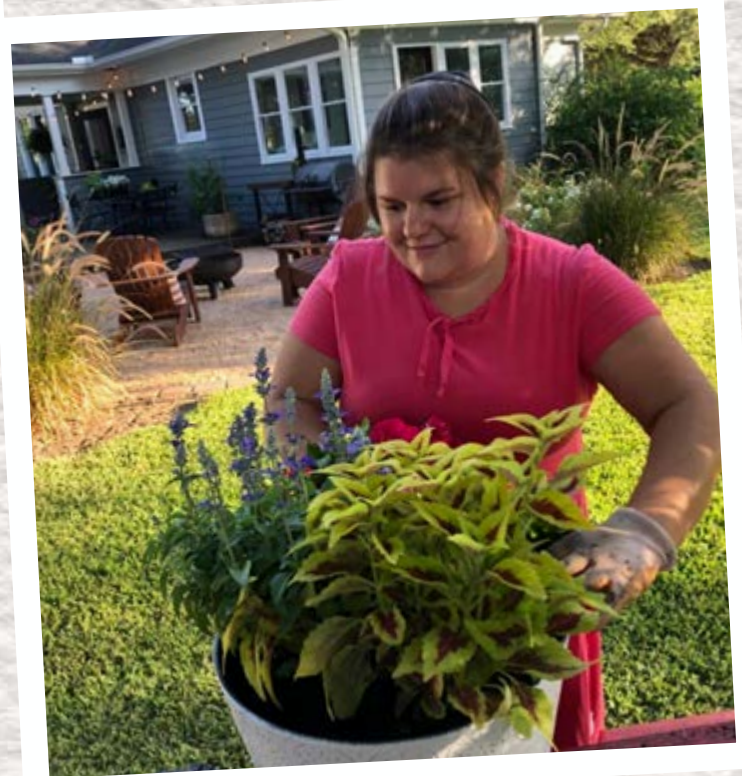
Carla is an experienced school teacher and has always given 100% effort on behalf of her students. They all love her and believe she is the BEST!



Smile



She is a wonderful wife to me. Many times after a hard day's work, I will come home to a clean and cozy atmosphere. She will have the lamps on, candles burning, table set with nice dishes and be in the kitchen preparing a wonderful meal. She takes great joy in making our home a happy place. I have every reason to believe that she will be an amazing mom. I can totally imagine her taking your baby in her arms, holding them close, and singing softly as they fall asleep. She dreams of giving them the perfect childhood.



Home Sweet Home



Together
is my
favorite
place to be

Andy bought our home right before we were married, and we have spent the last 5 years making it our special place.

Our Community



We can't wait to take our child to this park on nice evenings. It has a farmyard theme.



An old-fashioned day at our private school. Andy brought his antique tractor and gave hay rides to the children. It was a big hit!

Super Fun!

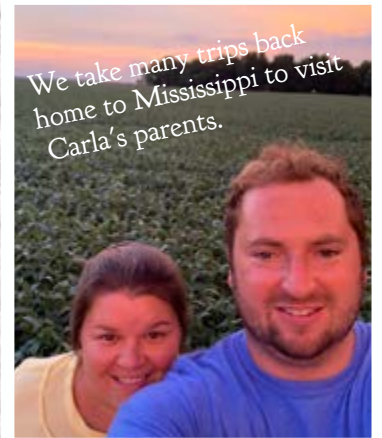
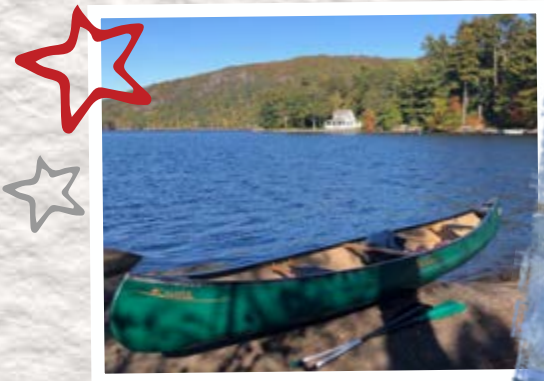


The Ice Cream Truck makes its way around town, tempting children and adults alike. We see it in our neighborhood. It has also been known to come to our school.



Another fun little spot in town that children love to visit.

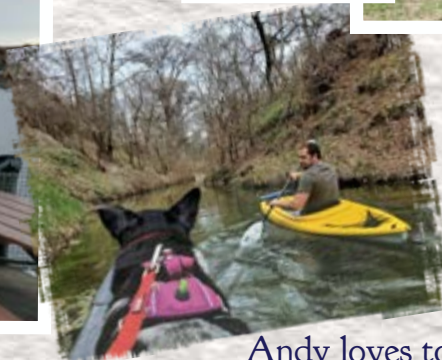
...exploring the USA...



We love to take trips and explore our great country. We have dreams of one day going to other countries, but we haven't done that yet. We have journeyed to Maine, Arizona, Arkansas, and many other states. We also love week-end getaways to the Texas Hill Country. It is our goal to visit all the neat little spots in our state.



WOW!



Andy loves to kayak!

Our Unruh Family



Thankful,
FOR FAMILY

Carla is the daughter of Warren and Karen Unruh. My dad is kind-hearted, easy-going, and loves to tease. Mom is small but mighty and a very doting grandmother. She shows her love through cooking delicious food. I have two brothers, Austin and Kyle. Austin is a natural comedian married to Andrea who is a wonderful mother. They have one adorable son, Liam Dale. My youngest brother Kyle was born with spina-bifida. He has a charming nature and is a farmer at heart. Ryan Handley is also very much a part of our family. I started baby-sitting Ryan when he was three months old, and he is like a brother.

Our Schmidt Family



IN LOVING
Memory
We miss you, Mom.



Darren is a outdoorsy guy who loves to spend time with his family.

As Andy's oldest brother, I'd love to have a niece/nephew on my side to watch grow up. My wife and children also look forward to having another child in the family. I know both Andy and Carla are super excited about raising a child, and I believe they'd grow up with an excellent upbringing and plenty of adventures and love.

Darren



Phil loves history and telling Texas-sized tales.



Matt is a globe-trotter. He has years of ER nursing experience



Benjamin

Bridgette

Miles

Love 
makes a
family

Andy is the youngest son of David and Dianna Schmidt. Andy's dad is a caring grandpa who loves to tell stories. He is energetic and young at heart. Andy has three travel-loving brothers, three talented sisters-in-law, two goofy nephews, and one very sweet niece. Andy has a deep admiration for his brothers. Each one has distinctive qualities that will make them amazing uncles.

...what our parents have to say...

Dear Birth Mother,

Hello! We are Carla's parents, grandparents to your precious baby. We had one small son so we were very excited to welcome our baby daughter, Carla Diane, to our home. When she was young, she loved to sing, but it didn't always sound very good :). She kept at it, and now she is a very talented singer.

At age 11, she gave her heart to God and was baptized into the Church of God in Christ, Mennonite. At 16, she told me that she wanted to teach school (we have our own church schools). After awhile her dream came true. She has taught the 7th and 8th grades many years. Parents and children alike love her. The children will do anything for Mrs. Schmidt.

Then came a certain time when there was a certain fellow named Andy Schmidt whom she came to love. They were married in 2016. We have been very blessed to have Andy in the family. He has a caring and compassionate heart. Carla has a brother who is in a wheelchair (spina-bifida). When we go to Texas to visit them, Andy always helps us with Kyle. Their home is open to anyone, and people love going to Andy & Carla's house.

Your child would be very welcomed and loved by them. We, as grandparents, would totally adore your baby.

With love and best wishes,
Warren & Karen
(grandparents-to-be)



...what our parents have to say...

Dear special Birth Mother of my future grandchild!

Congratulations on choosing my dear son Andy and daughter-in-law Carla to be the adoptive parents of your child!

Our son Andy is the youngest of our four sons and was born from a particular feeling we were to have another child. He has been a beloved son to us. At the age of 18, he gave his heart and life to the Lord and is a happy Christian man.

In due time, there came along a school teacher by the name of Carla Unruh. It just seemed their chemistry greatly attracted each other, and with time, they were happily married. They are a fun-loving couple particularly enjoying children. If you would see them entertaining other people's children like we have, you'd decide they would make great parents of your child. They are both diligent workers. Andy is very involved in the family's dirt-moving business. Carla is a really enthused school teacher, a very talented homemaker, and outstanding in tending her many beautiful flowers. Her cooking talent is simply blue-ribbon.

Your child will be exposed to many positive influences and opportunities. If you are truly desiring parents who would be very loving and caring to your child, this couple would be your choice.



God bless you,
David Schmidt
(one of the grandpas)

...what our family has to say...

Dear Birth Mother,

Hi! Our names are Austin and Andrea. Austin and Carla are siblings, and they know each other very well! We spend lots of evenings with Andy's, and we have also had some outings together. We spend holidays with them; they are always great to be with!

Andy is a friendly guy with a kind heart. He takes time to notice the small things in life and makes everyone feel like they are important to him.

Carla is an outgoing lady with a vibrant personality! She loves to interact with children, and it wins their hearts to her.

Andy's enjoy spending time together as a couple. Camping, working in the yard, cooking together, going to church, and socializing with friends are some of the things they do. Andy and Carla work well together.

We think they will make awesome parents for your child! They both love children, and they have the best in mind for everyone! They have a secure home full of love and happiness!

Best Wishes,
Austin & Andrea



...what our family has to say...

Dear Birth Mother,

Hello! We are Philip and Teresa Schmidt. Andy is Phil's youngest brother. Andy and Carla were married in 2016, and we have known Carla since that time.

Andy is a hard-working, sociable young man who loves spending time with his niece and nephews. He loves the outdoors and the activities that come with it such as biking, hiking, and kayaking.

Carla also is very sociable and has a lot of friends. She loves working in her yard and has an artist's eye for making it attractive. She has taught school for many years and is very familiar with children.

As a couple, they like to go camping and love spending time with family. They also both like to cook. Andy has made different outdoor cookers that they use frequently for themselves as well as entertaining friends and family.

We feel like they have a good grasp on what it takes to provide for a child's physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being, and they will make a good home for any child.

All the best,
Phil & Teresa



...what our friends have to say...

Dear Birth Mother,

This letter is being written to express full support for the prospective adoption process of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Schmidt. We, Tyler and Edith Remple, have known Andy and Carla Schmidt for six years, and they have become some of our closest friends. We have one son Aiden Ty, who was born in January of 2022.

Andy has a heart for other people and is unselfish in giving of his time, talents, and money to those who need it. He is a caring person and genuinely sees the needs of others. Andy is dedicated to his family, friends, and community and ensures that the needs of others are cared for to the best of his ability.

Carla is a creative and talented individual "who can." Carla has an amazing talent to make everyone she meets feel welcome, appreciated, and accepted. She is also a fantastic school teacher who is able to build rapport with children of all ages.

Together, Andy and Carla will be amazing parents who will love and care for their child as well as provide a safe home in which the child will be able to grow and develop.

Sincerely,
Tyler & Edith Remple



...what our friends have to say...

Dear Birth Mother,

Hi! I'm Marla Seaman, a friend of Andy and Carla. The first thought that came to my mind, when Carla told me that they wanted to adopt a child was this, "Oh, they will be so perfect for that!" It was with a thrill of joy that I received the news.

I have known Andy and his family for years. Carla was a co-teacher of mine for several years. They are both hardworking and fun-loving. Carla loves to cook, and Andy grills. I've had some delicious meals at their house! They have a nice clean house with a beautiful yard. They are enthused about life, and I know they will make wonderful parents.

They are both acquainted with sorrow and are empathetic. They have a "heart" for people. Carla taught my adopted nephew (who is on the autistic spectrum) and had a very good way with him. Andy also took him under his wing; I have been grateful to them many times.

One thing I really like about them is that I can go to their house and just feel relaxed and at home.

Love and prayers,
Marla Seaman



...what our friends have to say...

Dear Birth Mother,

Hello, our names are Carson and Luci Koehn. We live in Texas where I grew up. Luci grew up in northeastern Mississippi. We met in 2016 when Luci came to teach school in my hometown.

I, Carson, have know Andy since we were preschoolers. We went to school together and have been friends for many years. Since we have both married, we have remained friends, and our wives have become friends. We worship at the same church and share similar values.

Andy is a friendly, hardworking, responsible, and caring person. He will go out of his way to help someone and is creative and resourceful. He enjoys biking, outdoor activities, and building things.

Carla has an engaging personality and infectious laugh. Her extensive experience as a school teacher gives her an understanding of children, and how to relate to them but maintain authority. She is creative, organized, and efficient. She enjoys flowers and landscaping.

Andy and Carla will make great parents because of their love for others and their unselfish natures. They are disciplined and will provide a structured but caring environment in which a child will thrive.



We wish you all the best,
Carson and Luci

...what our friends have to say...

Dear Biological Mom,

Whoever you may be, we wish you peace and strength in your journey. We are an older couple who's lives have been enriched by two adopted sons, so we are always interested in adoption stories.

Our youngest son Tyler was diagnosed as ASD when he was in sixth grade. He was not doing well in an ordinary classroom setting. He was put into a private tutoring setting, and Carla became one of his teachers at that time. Her creativity and patience and humor helped pull him into much better places...so much so...that when she became the teacher for his eighth grade class at our small parochial school, he was able to complete grade eight in the company of his classmates again.

During the time Tyler was taught personally by Carla, her husband Andy also took a very kind interest in him, helping him with woodworking projects, taking him on outings, biking with him to a local hamburger restaurant for lunches, kayaking the local river, and showing him how to grill great steaks.

They have continued to befriend him even when he was no longer in her class by having him down for suppers and encouraging him and including him in other social activities. They have made a more positive difference in his life than nearly anyone else we know.

If they make such great teachers, mentors, and friends to a young man unrelated to them, I guess we believe any child lucky enough to have them for parents would be fortunate beyond words!

Sincerely,
Dwight & Tamara Koehn



...what my students have to say...

Carla has many talents and many things that would make her a great mom. She has a lot of patience and doesn't lose her temper. She is very understanding and unselfish. She is a southern gal with a heart of gold and has a lot of love to give your child. She is fun and loving with the softest of hearts, and she cares deeply about those she's in charge of. Her spontaneous laugh is contagious. and her child is going to love her creative side. Carla has a green thumb, and her yard always looks really nice. She is an awesome cook; everything she makes is delectable. She is very kind and considerate of others feelings, and you will never find her in someone else's business. Carla has just the right ratio of fun versus discipline. She loves doing art projects with people, and she loves sports and is good at them. She will go the extra mile when planning or doing activities to make them extra nice and fun. Carla would make an excellent mom because she puts her heart into everything she does, and I know she would put her whole heart into caring for her child. She seems very successful with being able to connect with and understand children and knows how to deal with them in an effective way. She would make a very secure, happy, fun home and a very wonderful mom to her child.

Sincerely,
her former students

Carla was my teacher in 5th grade. She was a very good teacher. Very happy! Sometimes she would do this little skip as she was going into the classroom, and you knew she was for sure happy then! One thing I've noticed since I've gotten out of school is how selfless she was. There were things we had her help us to that she didn't enjoy herself, but she willingly helped us and that is something I would like to learn to be like! Selfless and happy!
-Darcy



believe
in
yourself

Thank You!

....so much for taking the time to read our book and learning to know us better! We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we have loved introducing ourselves to you. We are looking forward to the day that we can meet you!! We sincerely wish you all the best in your life and courage as you face the future!



We look forward to getting to know you, and warmly welcome you to contact us if you are interested in us parenting your child. We can be reached through our Agency at

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Khimmm@JJAdoptions.com