# Mandy and Bill





hank you for taking the time to get to know us, we imagine this decision is not easy, and we respect you for considering adoption. We are unable to have children biologically, but long for the chance to expand our family. Mandy was 13 when she was diagnosed with a rare endocrine syndrome and told that it would be difficult to have children. After unsuccessfully trying, we turned to adoption.

Our son, Jack, joined our family through adoption in December of 2020. We have built our lives together on the south shore of Massachusetts.

We love our little family, adore being parents, and have so much love to give. *Thank you* for getting to know us a little bit more!



hen we met, Mandy was in graduate school and Bill had just moved back to his hometown, which was about three hours away. On our first date, Bill opened the car door for Mandy, kissed her, and took her by the hand. To this day, she remembers thinking, "Well alright, here we go." It felt like we had known each other for a very long time.



We met the "old fashioned" way...online!





For the next year and a half, we took turns visiting each other. Until, on one very windy afternoon, Bill took us to our favorite beach. After coaxing Mandy outside into the wind and before she could question him, he was down on one knee. We will never forget that windy day in November.

Mandy found a job teaching middle school in Bill's hometown. That same year, we bought a house and got married in her hometown church in Florida. It was an intimate and wonderful wedding with our family and closest friends. After several years of marriage, life is much calmer and we've settled into our routines.



Life is never without challenges, however. When either of us needs a reminder that we have each other to lean on, we repeat this mantra: No need to fret or stew, I will take care of you.

### Values we Share

- → God | We love exploring and learning about this amazing world God created. We are in awe daily of the beauty that surrounds us.
- → Our Family | We value the time we have with one another and making new memories together.
- → Our Families | They have made us who we are and we would be nothing without their love and support.







#### **Vacation spot**

Yellowstone

#### Place to take a child

Play park

#### Hobby

Tennis

#### **Sports team**

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New England Patriots

#### Historical figure I want to meet

Galileo – I want to know how people reacted when he said the Earth is round!

#### Children's book

A Kissing Hand for Chester Racoon

#### Author I like to read

Elin Hilderbrand

#### Ice cream flavor

Peppermint



andy has a huge heart and cares for everyone she comes to know, especially her family and friends. When she was a teacher, I heard constant praise about her from not only her fellow teachers, but from students themselves whose lives she has touched. Now as a Curriculum Director, she helps teachers to troubleshoot dilemmas. I feel blessed to be married to such a wonderful woman. Mandy also loves to laugh and is always game for an adventure. On one trip to Disney, as we were about to get on Big Thunder Mountain Railroad, the sky suddenly unleashed torrential rain. With no time to think, we got on, and away we went. Mandy laughed hysterically the entire time. I'll never forget the joy in her laugh as we were pelted by rain on a roller coaster.

Nothing, however, compares to the joy I see in her since *pecoming a mother*.







Fun Facts

**I played tennis in college,** and my team was ranked #2 in the nation.

I love exploring our beautiful world and experiencing its beauty—small or large, near or far.

I especially enjoy watching the birds in our yard. Cardinals are my favorite.





#### **Vacation Spot**

Anywhere the family has a fun time

#### **Favorite Dessert**

Anything chocolate

#### **Musical Artist**

Linkin Park

#### **Hobby**

Computers

#### **Can't Live Without**

Family

#### Children's Book

Where the Wild Things Are

#### **Author I Like to Read**

Peter Benchley

#### **Sports Team**

New England Patriots



ill is sensitive, kind and strong. His name, William Howard, means protector/guardian of the home, which summarizes him perfectly. Nothing is more important to Bill than his family, and he will do anything to protect us. As a 12-year-old, he put out a house fire using a garden hose and saved his little sister who was trapped on a bunk bed. He is calm in stressful situations, and an excellent problem solver. Bill is crazy smart, he loves to read about science, history, and politics. While he likes his job as an electrician and enjoys the challenge, he does not live to work. Instead, he works to live and support his family.

Bill is an incredible father.

Nothing brings me more joy
than seeing him play with Jack!

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DADDY, THROW ME IN



Fun Facts

I was a Captain in the Air Force and worked as a Bioenvironmental Engineer.

**I enjoy playing video games.**My favorite (right now) is World of Warships.

I like to look at the night sky through my telescope.











#### Jack joined our family through adoption in 2020.

His preschool recently asked me what color represents him. I had to think on that one for a few minutes—talk about pressure in the moment! Green, however, is what came to mind. He loves to be outside and collect treasures (rocks, acorns, leaves), which he stores in his pockets. We find all kinds of things in the laundry.

We are always on the lookout for a bug or pretty flower, bonus points if it's a bug on a flower. We watched a cricket on a dahlia for ten minutes the other day! Jack loves doing art, whether it is coloring or painting, playing with play doe, or building with Legos or blocks. Cars and trucks are also a hot commodity. Jack has a bright smile and is a big helper, especially with younger kids at school. He will no doubt be a wonderful big brother.



Bill grew up here, and after Mandy finished school, he admitted he didn't want to leave this magical place. We've now been in our home for eight years and this is without a doubt, where we plan to stay. Our home is open and bright, but also cozy. We have a lot of windows that overlook the backyard and nature preserve that is just beyond. We especially enjoy watching the many birds as well as deer families as they cross our yard in the Spring. One of Jack's first words is "DEER!" In the summer, we enjoy sharing our back deck with family and friends. The kids love to run around the yard, play wiffle ball, and swing on the hammock. Roasting marshmallows over the fire pit is a huge hit as well.

Our community values families, and there is so much to do with kids! The beaches are a top destination, and there are also several small museums as well as an observatory and an aquarium. We spend a lot of time at the play parks, including one right around the corner! We also go to the library for story time, puppet shows, and sing-a-longs, and nearly all the kids go to the Boys and Girls Club to play sports.



We share our home with our dog and two cats. Rufus is a very friendly golden-doodle who loves to cuddle with humans, especially Jack. They play together all the time and Rufus watches closely over his boy. Rufus also tolerates his furry brothers, Mason and Monroe. While Monroe is pretty outgoing (for a cat!), Mason is a bit more reserved. They are all full of love and are great with children!

## Our Loved Ones

#### Most of Bill's family lives locally.

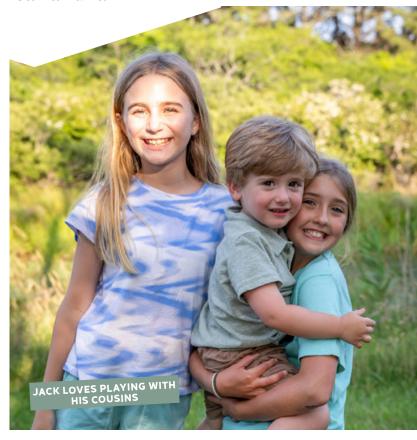
Nema and Grampa live a modest
life sprinkled with amazing
vacations. Their house is often the
center of activity with grandkids
running around. They do a lot to
help both us as well as Aunt Grace
and her two girls that live nearby. Jack loves
playing with the girls, and they love to dote on him! When
they have some downtime, Grampa likes to tinker and fix
things while Nema enjoys cross stitching. Aunt Cathy and
her family come visit every summer and we have a blast,
they can't wait to have another cousin to play with.

Mandy grew up in Florida and her parents' house has been the family's hub for 50 years. For Christmas we travel to Grammy and Grampy's house and Aunt Emily and her family meets us there. In the summer, everyone comes to visit us. Our time together as a family is so much fun—from family tennis matches to art projects to board games after dinner. No matter where we are, all ten of us camp out in the house together—air mattresses everywhere—but we wouldn't have it any other way. We really just enjoy the time we have together!

We cherish the time we get to spend with family both near and far



**BILL WITH HIS SISTERS** 

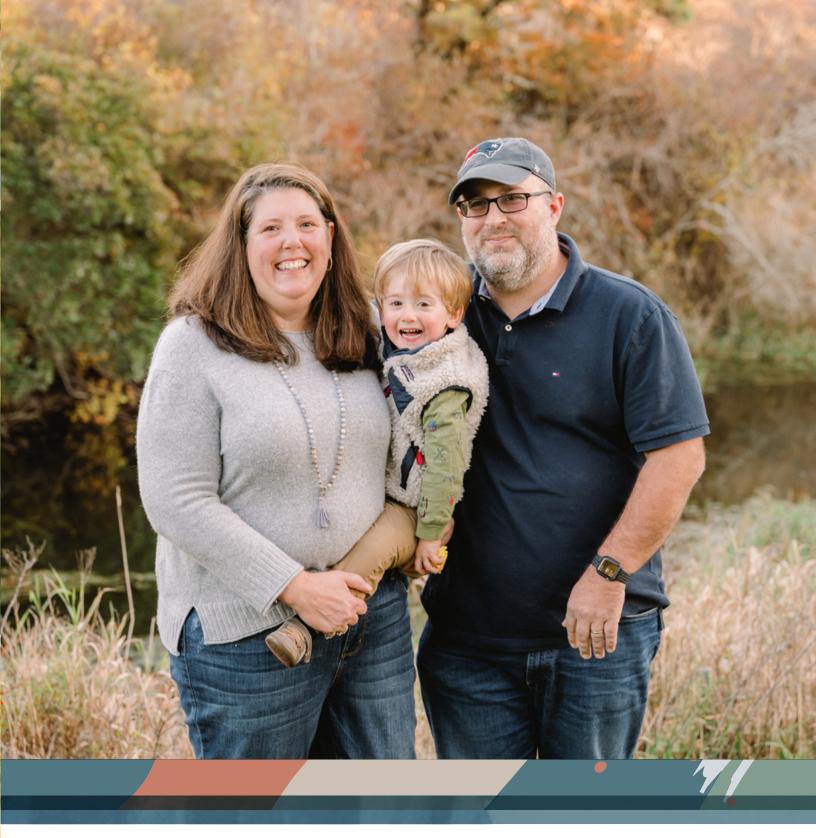


THIS IS BILL'S FAMILY

WE HAD AN EPIC BACKYARD BBQ WITH BOTH OF OUR FAMILIES!

THIS IS MANDY'S FAMILY





We promise to always provide unconditional love, to get to know your child's passions, and to help them explore and develop them.

ur families have taught us to be humble and kind, to cherish each other, and to never stop learning. We hope that these values came through in an authentic way. We would love nothing more than the opportunity to share these same values with your child. It would be both an honor and a delight to learn more about you and your vision. If chosen, we promise to respect and protect your child's adoption story. Depending on your wishes, we are open to sharing pictures, letters, or visits as your child grows. We appreciate the time you've invested in getting to know us. We would be forever grateful to be chosen as your child's adoptive parents. We wish you peace as you make this decision.

