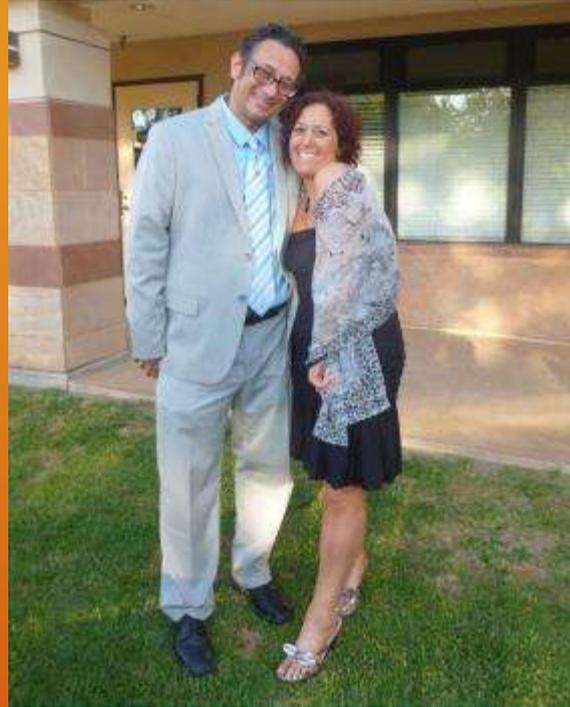


# Daniel & Mishel



**Hello! We appreciate that you are taking the time to read our “story of us” and we hope you enjoy learning about our lives and our hopes and dreams for the future.**

**We have been married for five years, but we have known each other for MUCH longer. We originally met in Religious School when we were only 15 years old. We lost touch after religious school and then our paths crossed 20 years later and we quickly realized we were meant to be together, and were married exactly one year later!**

Daniel & Mishel together  
@ 15 years old



Our Wedding Day



## Our Story...

Before we were reunited, Mishel was married and had two children, Nayt & Mandi. Mishel and her first husband divorced, but still remain very good friends and share custody with Nayt & Mandi. Daniel loves being a step-dad and we have had so much fun as a family.

Daniel & Mishel wanted to have a baby together as soon as possible and were blessed with a beautiful baby girl, Jylian, in 2009. In 2011, Jylian was diagnosed with a rare form of childhood cancer called Retinoblastoma. The medical team truly believed that Jylian could be cured from this cancer. Jylian had surgeries and chemotherapy and was feeling great, but all of sudden, she took a turn for the worse. The cancer had somehow spread to Jylian's brain and spinal-cord. Within one week of discovering this, Jylian passed-away quietly in our arms, surrounded by our loving & supportive extended family. Jylian had just turned two-years-old. It has been truly heartbreaking living without Jylian, but we truly believe she is being well taken care of in heaven and she wants us to be happy. We want more than anything to have another baby, but now we are diagnosed with "unexplained infertility".

## ABOUT DANIEL

**Daniel grew up in Ventura County, and loves everything that this city has to offer. He is an avid Mountain Biker and has enjoyed conquering many of our local trails. He also enjoys wood-working, gardening, and landscape design. He also enjoys reading classic novels and science fiction, and watching movies with the family. He works as a Computer Software Support Analyst. He really likes his schedule: 6am – 3pm, so he can pick up kids from school and help with homework**



Daniel checking out a trail



Backyard Clubhouse Daniel built

## ABOUT MISHEL

**Mishel also grew up in Ventura County and loves hiking, spending time at the beach, riding her beach-cruiser bike, baking, photography, reading, dancing, family picnics and “crafting”. Mishel has a special craft table (which Daniel built) and shelves and drawers filled with crafting supplies to create decorations, scrapbooks, gifts, centerpieces, etc...**

**Mishel is a Nurse specializing in Labor & Delivery and Newborn Nursery. She works part-time, 2 or 3 nights per week so she is always home in the daytime to take care of the kids.**



# NAYT & MANDI

**Nayt is 15 and is in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. He is on the High school Wrestling Team, a member of the school Entrepreneurs Club, and enjoys running and working-out at the gym. Nayt also volunteers at the local Hospice doing office work and is going to start counseling kids on dealing with grief after losing a loved-one. He is thinking of becoming a Psychiatrist one day. He is also a very sweet and caring big brother.**

**Mandi is 13 and is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She is on the Middle School Dance Team and enjoys singing, writing songs and stories, working out, shopping, and hanging out with her friends. Mandi is planning to become a doctor one day. She also has a sweet personality and is very nurturing.**

**Both Nayt & Mandi are incredibly excited about us adopting a baby!**



Nayt & Mandi



Nayt wrestling (in black)



Mandi Dancing for her friends

### **Where we live....**

**Thousand Oaks is an outstanding community. The city consistently ranks within the top 10 safest large cities in the United States. It is extremely family-oriented. There are numerous beautiful parks, including one across the street from where we live.**

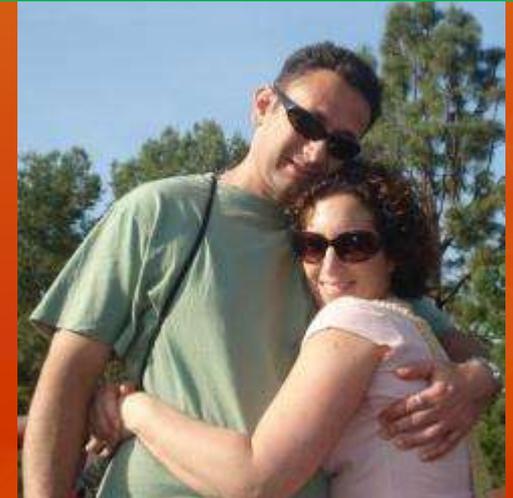
**We live in a 4-bedroom, 2-story house with a large yard. Our neighborhood has many kids and people are always strolling through the neighborhood, either biking, skateboarding, jogging or just simply walking. Our neighbors are friendly and trustworthy.**

### **FAMILY...**

**We have a very close extended family. Mishel's parents live in Oak Park and Daniel's parents live in Camarillo. We have numerous wonderful Aunts, Uncles, and cousins who are all in California. They are all so supportive and excited for us to adopt. Mishel's parents are originally from England and Daniel's mom grew up in Germany and Daniel's dad was raised in New York.**

### **RELIGION...**

**We were raised in the Jewish religion although Daniel grew-up celebrating Christian Holidays also. So, we have grown to enjoy celebrating all the Jewish Holidays with our large extended family and Christian Holidays with Daniel's family and/or friends. We get the best of both worlds! We bring our children up to believe in G-d, the meaning and strength of spirituality, and to always believe in yourself.**





Our cats, Skittles & Snickers (playing air-hockey).

Our dog, Archie, and our tortoise, Jessie.



Mishel with Daniel's sister (Miriam) and niece, Alexis.



Mishel's parents (Beryl & Beau)



Nayt teaching mom how to ride a "wave board"



Daniel impressing the crowd on his "air guitar"



Mandi with baby Jylian



Mishel with nurse friends



**Thank-you again for taking the time to read “Our Story” We wish you continued strength and courage for choosing this path. Best Wishes, Daniel and Mishel**