

Natalie + Mika





WE ARE

Mika AND
Natalie

THANK YOU

for taking the time to
get to know us better.



WE ARE AN ACTIVE COUPLE

AND LOVE TO BE OUTSIDE
RIDING BIKES OR ATVS,
JET-SKIING, OR JUST
WORKING IN THE YARD.

When we talked about having children together, we always knew we would want to adopt even if we had biological children. **We have two nephews who were adopted, and we are so grateful for the experience and our love for them.** Despite the complexities of adoption, we have seen firsthand how meaningful it can be for everyone involved. Mika cannot wait to have a child she can share her love of sports with, and Natalie is excited to have someone to cook with and read bedtime stories to.



CAMPING AND PLAYING AT THE LAKE

OUR Story

WE GREW UP 7 MILES FROM EACH OTHER, AND WE KNEW ABOUT EACH OTHER BUT HAD NEVER REALLY TALKED.

It wasn't until our mutual friend invited us to go on an ATV ride that cupid hit both of us with his arrow. We quickly realized that we were looking for the same thing, each other. We fell quickly for each other that Valentine's day and have been inseparable ever since. Being together has made us better people and we were each other's missing puzzle pieces.



↑
**OUR
BEAUTIFUL
BEACH
WEDDING**



HOW IT ALL BEGAN - WE LOVE RIDING ATVS



AT THE BEACH IN THE BAHAMAS





Mika

BY NATALIE

**MIKA GREW UP IN AN
ATHLETIC FAMILY AND SHE
EXCELLED IN EVERY SPORT
SHE PLAYED.**

She played basketball, softball and volleyball. Her parents showed up for every game and cheered her on, and she can not wait to be that support for our children. I know she will be an amazing coach for our kids. She loves watching baseball and she has dreams of taking a child to Spring Training like she use to do with her Dad. Mika's parents loved taking the family to Disneyland. She says they acted just like the kids with their excitement, and we are excited to carry on that tradition.



FOR WORK

**Mika is the Director
of Emergency
Services for our
County and a
paramedic.**

Mika is very devoted to the community and knows everyone. She is involved in all the county's activities and a lot of safety programs for the kids in our county. Mika will be the type of mother that makes our kids feel safe. She will protect them and teach them how to protect themselves. She has always made me feel safe and supports me in everything I do.

FUN FACTS ABOUT MIKA

- A place I think every child should go to on vacation with their parents/ family is **Disneyland**. I think my parents were more excited than I was to be there.
- My perfect day is **relaxing at the baseball park** watching a baseball game.
- My dad bought me my first book when I was young and my parents would read to me, it was a **Sesame Street Cookie Monster book**. I still have that book today and can't wait to read it to my kid.
- **LUNCH BOX SNACK:** For my away sports games in school my mom used to pack me **Swedish Fish** in my gym bag.
- I like to **collect guitar picks** from all the concerts Natalie and I go to
- **HOBBIES:** Basketball, Softball, Volleyball, riding bikes
- **MUSICAL ARTIST:** We love music **Rock, Country, P!nk** and more P!nk
- **ICE CREAM FLAVOR:** I love any kind of ice cream **especially if it has caramel**



I ENJOY COLD WEATHER
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES TOO!



ROXY AND MIKA READY TO PADDLE BOARD



POSING BY A COOL MURAL




MEET

Natalie

BY MIKA

NATALIE CAN
CATCH ANYONE'S
ATTENTION WHEN
SHE WALKS INTO
A ROOM WITH HER
CHEERFUL SMILE,
AND HER POSITIVE
ATTITUDE.

Natalie is the love of my life and my best friend. She is the easiest person to talk to, and even strangers are drawn to her. Natalie has a huge heart and everyone feels her love - even the birds she brought back to life. I love that you can talk to Natalie about anything, without judgment. She makes you feel safe and that it is alright to be yourself no matter what. **She sees the good in everyone, is trustworthy, a great listener and an excellent communicator.** Natalie is always looking for ways to bring people together and build stronger relationships, and believes that anything can be learned. For all these reasons and so much more, I know Natalie will be the best mom ever!



EVERY DAY IS
an adventure with
her no matter what
we do.

Natalie and I love going camping in our camper and she is always up for doing anything! Going for a bike ride, jet skiing, playing games or just star gazing at the night sky is always fun with Natalie and filled with laughter and love. She always talks about how much fun she will have as a mom.

NATALIE WITH ROXY AND LEXI



TRYING OUT A BIRD SCOOTER DOWNTOWN



PLAYING JENGA WHILE CAMPING



FUN FACTS ABOUT NATALIE

- **SEASONAL ACTIVITY:** I like to **paddle board or jet ski** in the summer.
- **VACATION SPOT:** **Any beach** where I can snorkel.
- **ANIMAL:** My favorite animal would have to be **my dogs**. My friends always tell me if they were a dog they would want to be one of mine.
- **CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT:** **Books** I love to read.
- **MUSICAL INSTRUMENT:** I have attempted to learn the Guitar.
- **DESSERT:** When Mika and I first started dating every **Sunday** **was ice cream day** we would put **Caramel chocolate, and whipped topping** on it. So good!
- **WHAT I LIKE TO COLLECT.** **Fridge magnets** from everywhere we travel so that every time we look at the fridge we can remember the memories.

OUR

Home

AND

COMMUNITY



WE LIVE IN CENTRAL UTAH.

OUR HOME HAS BEEN IN
MIKA'S FAMILY FOR A
LONG TIME; IT WAS HER
GRANDPARENTS' HOME AND
WHERE HER FATHER GREW UP

We have renovated the entire place and are proud to say we did most of the work ourselves. It is a three-bedroom, three-bath house in a quiet neighborhood close to our families. There are great schools and ballparks that are blocks from our home. **The neighborhood is full of kids of all ages, making it a great place to be a kid.** Utah's weather is unpredictable and we can have four seasons in one day. We enjoy being outdoors and have everything we enjoy doing within 30 miles from us. **We have mountains for shoe shoeing, lakes for jet skiing and sand dunes for riding ATV's.** There are even places for camping and learning to ride a bike.

Every year we have a rodeo and carnival that lasts three days, everyone in the entire county prepares for it all year. There are parades and car shows, vendors, and tournaments that everyone takes part in. **The county we live in is very family oriented and has festivals and activities to attend from spring to winter.** We feel so blessed to have grown up in this place and look forward to hopefully getting to share our home with a baby one day.



PLAYING CORNHOLE IN OUR FRONT YARD

OUR

Dogs



WE HAVE 2 DOGS,

Roxie and Lexi, who both have fun personalities and love playing with each other.

They are very active and enjoy all our adventures. Mika has taught Lexi how to play volleyball, and Roxie is our little soccer player. They bring so much joy and happiness to our lives. **They are great with kids and enjoy long walks.**

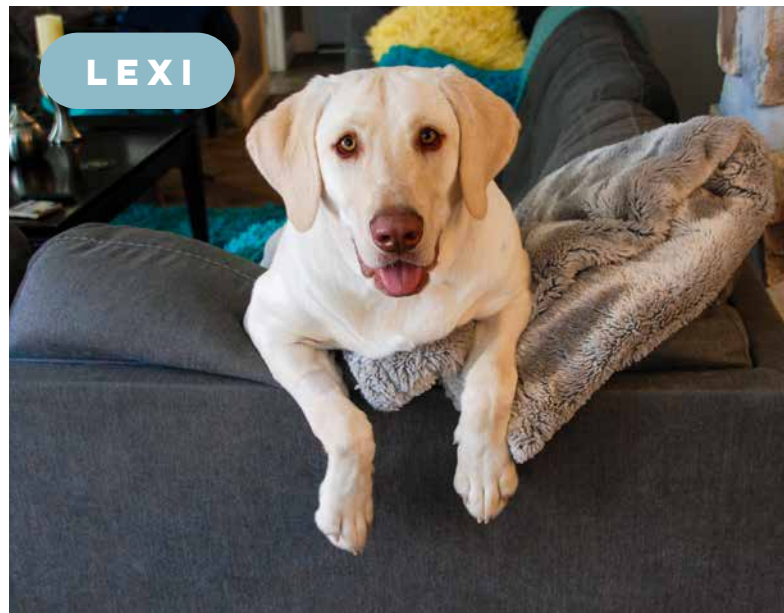


NATALIE AND ROXY ENJOYING A BOAT RIDE ON THE LAKE

ROXY



LEXI





**NATALIE WITH HER
PARENTS AND SIBLINGS**



Loved Ones

WITH MIKA'S SISTERS



ROASTING TWINKIES OVER THE FIRE



We are close to our family, and we are always getting together to just hang out and talk. We live so close to each other that they are always stopping by, and it is suddenly a twinkie-roasting party. Together we have 7 siblings who are married with kids. So a child will have a strong family support system with aunts, uncles and cousins who are eager for a new little cousin.

LAUNCHING
WATER
BALLOONS!



MAKING CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS WITH FAMILY



MIKA AND SOME EXTENDED FAMILY



Traditions

We have an annual family sleepover where we play yard games, make crafts, eat, watch a movie outside and launch water balloons. The holidays are festive with our family. Together, we do arts and crafts, pumpkin carving, making Christmas ornaments, and building gingerbread houses. These are family traditions we are excited to share with our little one. **Being open to becoming a transracial family, we will incorporate traditions from the child's culture into our lives. Family is one of the most important things in our lives.** Our family is fun and supportive; they even show up for our dogs' birthday parties.

FLYING A KITE WITH OUR NEPHEW





THANK YOU

for taking the time to
learn more about us.

We are hopeful this gave you a glimpse into our lives. **We promise to love a child unconditionally and incorporate any traditions you would like to share with us to pass on to them. We will model kindness, courage and strength.** We believe a child should always feel loved and supported with the decisions they make throughout their lives. We will raise them to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up for what they believe in. We hope to have a chance to get to know you better and build a relationship with you.

