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## Hello! We are Wyatt and Zana!

As we open our hearts to adoption, we also want to open them to you. Thank you for looking through our book. We hope that you get a glimpse of what we would like to provide during a challenging decision. We wish to have a relationship with you as much as you feel comfortable. We have found hope in the trials of our lives from the understanding of God's word. As the Lord has guided us through our life, we want to share his love for us with our adoptive child. We feel like we have the best examples of parenting in our parents, family, church family and friends. We understand the courage that it takes to make a challenging decision and we will pray for you during this time of uncertainty.







## About us

We met through our mutual love of education and agriculture at a conference. What started out as colleagues sharing ideas and lessons for their own classrooms grew into a relationship built on faith, respect for each other, love of working with youth, and a general goofiness. We got married in June of 2017 and have patiently been waiting for our family to grow.

We live on Wyatt's family's cattle and horse ranch in south central South Dakota. Our rural lifestyle allows us to spend our days working outdoors with our family as well as remotely for the South Dakota FFA Association and Zana's online curriculum business. Each of us has siblings, so we have a crew of first cousins that are excited to have some new family members to play games with, ride horses with, and share in family holidays and vacations! We are close with our neighbors and our supportive and caring church family. We are actively involved in helping youth through involvement in 4-H, local high schools, FFA (Future Farmers of America), and Vacation Bible School.





About **Zana**  
as told by Wyatt



praiseworthy  
workhorse | giving  
sacrificial | creative



Zana is praiseworthy! At our wedding, Philippians chapter four was the center of the message that was shared and specifically verse eight that states,

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.”

This verse was written to be both an encouragement and a directive to the Christians to meditate and devote their thoughts on what is excellent and praiseworthy, namely the life and work of Christ. Zana truly embodies the life of someone devoted to what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, and praiseworthy. Zana is the workhorse that never quits, especially when doing anything for others. She is the first to give sacrificially of herself for the joy of others. She gives so much of her creativity, time, energy, and talents to meet the needs of those around her whether it is asked for or not. Zana is fiercely loyal and kind, often taking the burdens of those around her while putting on a genuine smile as she loves blessing the lives of others. In addition to her action-oriented love of others, she is an adventurer at heart that grabs at opportunities and experiences that arise.





# About Wyatt

told by Zana



compassionate  
thoughtful | kind  
silly



Wyatt is the most compassionate person I have ever met. It was one of the first things that drew me to him, I adore his desire to get to know each person on a deeper level. Secondly, to know Wyatt is to love him. He is always up for a crazy idea, will break out in random song or dance, and is the first to volunteer to play, read, help, or teach those he is around. Wyatt knows the Lord has given him abilities to work with youth. He can connect with any child, which has led him to have many strong relationships over the years.

It is always a joy to get the phone calls, texts, wedding invitations, and baby announcements of former students and youth he has worked with over the years. Wyatt loves cows - I don't think I really understood how much until he bought a heifer at a sale we attended together. Little did I know he used this opportunity to pick up the heifer to ask my parents for their permission to marry me. We named her Delta Dawn and she still lives in our herd!

He is thoughtful and kind. He will surprise me with little acts of kindness and silliness and truly makes it a joy to spend time with him. I can't wait to see Wyatt in a father role as I have gotten to experience his love and care for so many other children through his time as an uncle, teacher, and mentor to many. I know that Wyatt will always put our child first and raise them with patience and understanding. He loves puzzles, card games, singing, and laughing!







# Family

On the ranch we live on the same “yard” where our barns and pens are as Wyatt’s parents, Miles and Kim, and his sister’s family. Wyatt’s sister Katrin and her husband Kevin have three children. Kylee (12), Kelli (10) and Cooper (7) are excited to have a new cousin to play with! They are active in 4-H, youth basketball and wrestling, and playing with their dog, Kenzie! Wyatt also has two other sisters. Tina is a missionary in Uganda, although we don’t get to see her as often as we would like, we know she loves doing the Lord’s work. Tina gets to come home for a few months each year and for longer stays every three years. Her missionary work has taken her to China and now to Uganda. Tara, Wyatt’s last sister, is married to Adam and they have five children. They live on the outskirts of Sioux Falls South Dakota on a few acres. Lydia (16), Geneva (14), Levi (12), Anna (10), and Caleb (8) are all very active in music, raising chickens and pigs, participating in their home-school co-op and as active members of their church. We love to spend time with our nieces and nephews. We take in as many concerts, ball games, cattle shows and activities as we can and as Facetime and zoom allow!







Zana is originally from Kansas, and her family still resides in the northeast corner. Her parents Dennis and Cindy are retired and are eager to visit a new grandchild! Zana has one brother Levi who is married to Teresa, and they have three active children! Caleb (10), Eric (8), and Annie (6) love to play sports, participate in 4-H, work on the family farm and visit Wyatt and Zana in South Dakota! We love spending time together riding horses, making crepes, and playing games!



Our family is very supportive of adoption and is excited to love and welcome our adoptive child and you into our family.







## A few of our favorite things...



### | Zana |

Creating  
Hosting friends & family  
Writing cards and receiving  
"snail mail"  
South Dakota Scenery  
Flowers



### | Wyatt |

Listening to good music  
Strategic thinking & competitive  
events  
Cattle and livestock  
Audio books  
Working with young people through  
FFA





## Our Home

We are lucky to live in the original homestead of DeJong Ranch. Our ranch style home has a large yard with a garden, swing set, and lots of open space. Our remote ranch gives us lots of pastureland for working with livestock.



## Thoughts on Adoption

Starting a family has always been our goal. Before we were engaged, we were dating long distance, which meant a lot of phone calls. Some might see this as a disadvantage, but we tribute it to how in sync we feel. We were very open and honest about our wishes and dreams, and growing our family through adoption has always been a hope and dream.



# What we hope to offer this child...

We hope to offer a loving Christian home. We hope to provide a nurturing environment where our child can grow and experience their passions. We want them to live out their dreams in front of us.



Zana & Wyatt

