

Dear Donor #43445,

We wanted to take the time to tell you about ourselves and to say thank you for your unselfishness and huge sacrifice in the coming weeks.

First, about us... we are both 29 years old and were high school sweethearts. We got married in 2002 after we finished college and knew that we wanted kids...one day. We wanted to enjoy our time together alone before we brought kids into the mix and I was studying for the CPA exam so we decided to wait until that was over before we started trying to have kids. In the midst of this time, in January 2004, we found out that I was pregnant which was very unexpected. After getting over the initial shock we were very excited. We had about two weeks of complete joy and then found out I had miscarried. We were both devastated but knew that it was just not meant to be.

After this, due to some genetic concerns, we consulted a geneticist and were told that the miscarriage was likely due to a genetic abnormality and that it was more likely than not that we would not be able to achieve a successful pregnancy on our own. We were then given two options. First we could attempt to get pregnant on our own and if we were successful and did not have a miscarriage we could test the baby at 12 weeks and if it was abnormal we would have to decide whether to abort it or not. Our second option was in-vitro fertilization and they would test our embryos for the abnormal gene and only transfer the normal embryos. The former was not even an option for us so we chose to go the IVF route.

We started our first IVF cycle in December 2006 and have subsequently gone through two more cycles with nothing to show for it except a lot of disappointment. We desperately want children and after our third cycle failed it appeared our dreams were slipping away. We scheduled a meeting with Dr. Perloe and thought that he was going to tell us there was no hope, but instead he offered us one more option, and therefore one more ray of hope... an egg donor. He explained that my eggs were not producing good enough embryos and it was not likely we would be successful if we kept trying.

After a lot of discussion, thought and tears we decided we wanted to do it so we started down this uncertain road. After being on the waiting

list for 3-4 months we received a call that they had a donor profile for us to look at. GRS sent us the profile and we both took one look at it and said "She's Perfect!". The description you provided of yourself seemed to describe me. We wondered if we were allowed to get a picture of you but when we got it, I was very hesitant to look at it because I knew it would create a mental picture of you that might be really hard to deal with in the future. I, however, bit the bullet and opened the email attachments and I instantly felt a very strong attachment to you and knew that we were doing the right thing and that, perhaps, this was meant to be.

In the coming weeks, throughout the many early morning appointments, the egg retrieval and everything in between please know that we know exactly what you are going through and that we will be eternally grateful for your extraordinary sacrifice and will never forget how important you, a perfect stranger, were in our lives and in helping to make our hopes and dreams of having a family come true.

Please know that you are not going through this hard process alone. Even though we are not allowed to know you, we will constantly be thinking about you and praying for your health and the success of the process in the upcoming weeks. I look forward to telling my children one day about the stranger who gave so much for someone they did not even know and teaching them to live their lives with the same compassion and generosity towards the world that you are exhibiting.

Again, thank you so much for what you are doing and know that if we are successful in getting the babies that we so desperately want we will forever be indebted to you and will never take for granted what we all had to go through to create these little miracles.

Love,

Two very grateful, hopefully soon to be parents