

My Story

A few years ago I decided to adopt a baby, my next thought was which Country? Agency? Etc...

I came across Adopt Abroad, by chance? By destiny? At this time in my life, I was not sure of where to start, or how? So, I started emailing back and forth with Carol about various adoption options, questions, etc... (for about 1 plus years) We always kept in contact.

In the meantime, I had decided to go with another agency because I had a specific boy I was very interested in. Without going into a long story, things did not work out, I did not get the boy. I was very upset and disappointed, but my dream of being a mother still continued on...(about a year later) and after a divorce. Carol kept popping in my mind, so I decided to take another chance with adopting, and I took her advice, and went with the Guatemalan program.

She was very helpful, not only with helping me to decide which Country would work best for me (single mom) and what I was looking for in my child. Carol also knew at this time, I was a little tight on cash, so she helped me get a grant to help pay for some costs. Which I thought was very generous of her!!!

Picking out my baby girl Maria (now Mikayla). She was not the first baby I saw. I waited, Maria was the second, and I immediately knew, I felt the connection? I felt the "that's her", that's my daughter, and even after all the obstacles (Earthquake in Guat, closing the program, etc) between the glance of seeing her, to actually having her, I knew it was meant to be!!!!



In the meantime of waiting for Mikayla, my mother passed away from cancer. Again, I was sad, she never got to meet her, but to my surprise the culture of Guatemala is too carry on the mother's maiden name, so my daughter not only has my sisters name (passed away from

breast cancer, 2002) but now she has my mother's name too!! There are many other coincidences too, as far as Mikayla's real name, birth mother's name, Her birthday, etc (she also looks a lot like me when I was a baby).

My Guatemalan experience

The travel was good, the hotel (Marriott) Guatemala City, was fabulous!!!! The people there were very friendly. The hotel had a baby playroom, they offer cribs to have right there in the rooms with you. Most people there were people to visit or pick up their babies. The weather was great, warm, but not too hot! The food was good also; they had buffets for breakfast and lunch. It is a very beautiful Country, I was told to visit Antigua, but unfortunately didn't get to.

My overall experience was wonderful!!! I feel Carol really helped me accomplish my dream!!!

I believe things happen for a reason. I believe God places children in the arms they belong to.

Good luck to you all!!!

Michelle L.

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To request our email contact: adoptions@adopt-abroad.com.