

Dear Kinsolving,

My reunion became a reality on March 31, 1998. After talking with you, I called my birth mother and introduced myself. Needless to say, she was shocked. We spoke for a few minutes and hung up. One hour later she called me back and we talked for about an hour. The following week she and her husband came to visit me in NYC. We had a great time. As a gift she gave me my first baby doll, and I gave her a necklace with my birth name engraved on it.

After their visit, I went to their hometown and met my two brothers and my sister, along with nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, all of whom welcomed me with open arms. It was more than I ever dreamed possible.

I keep in very close contact with my birth family. We talk on the phone at least once a week. They call me by my birth name because that's what my birth mother knew me as for 48 years and I love it.

My birth mother and adoptive mother have also met and like each other very much. I feel now as if we were never separated.

Thanks to Kinsolving, I now have two families who love me very much. I searched myself for twenty years to no avail. Kinsolving found my family in less than 48 hours.

I would like to help Kinsolving in any way that I can help to bring families together again.

Thank you Kinsolving for a making my dream a reality.

N.
NYS

Dear Kinsolving,

First, let me tell you that my reunion with my son is going beautifully. This whole thing is like a fairy tale. His adoption, his parents, his childhood was everything I had wanted for him when I made the decision to relinquish him. He has become a fine man that I like and respect, as well as love. And, best of all he is happy that I found him and wants me to be part of his life.

He and his wife visited my back in July, spent the weekend in my home!!! It was the most wonderful two days of my life. This is truly a fairy tale. THANK YOU.

Sincerely,

O.
TX

Dear Kinsolving,

Just to let you know a few of my group members have used your service and were completely satisfied with he results of the reunion. Still are going strong!! The birth mother and daughter you reunited just came back from a trip to Ireland to visit relatives, and they have been out to California to meet her brother WOW!!! Well that made me feel really good inside. She can not thank me enough for referring her to you after 12 years of searching.

Sue,
Group Leader

Dear Kinsolving,

Finding my son has been a wonderful blessing. We spoke on the telephone for the first time, on the same day I received your call, telling me you had found my 27-year-old son. We had a beautiful conversation. Hearing his voice for the first time was priceless. He was adopted by loving parents and has had a "good life." He thanked me for giving him life, and as we talked we discovered many common interests. He was sweet and accepting, and I could not have asked for a kinder response. I wrote to him and sent pictures of myself and his two brothers. He wrote back and sent pictures of himself and his adoptive family. He even included photos of him as a newborn and on through the years. It has been over a year now and we have yet to be reunited in person. He has

assured me that I am a special part of his life, but for reasons known to him, we have not met. I understand how this could be and I am committed to wait until the time comes when he is ready to meet me. I am eternally grateful to you, Kinsolving, for without your professional, kind help I know I would not have found my beloved son. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I hope you will print this letter in your next newsletter. I encourage all who are dedicated to searching for a loved one to keep the faith, and never stop believing and call KINSOLVING! They are unremarkable! Thanks.

W.
NC

Dear Kinsolving,

This is one for the Vanguard with a very positive outcome and even brighter future. It has been two months since I met my biological son, Joseph and the world is a different place for me these days. I would sit in front of the television and watch reunions on Oprah, Sally Jesse, and Montel. As I watched these shows, I would cry. I kept a positive attitude (well, not always) and I knew that someday I would find Joseph or he would find me. I owe you a million thanks and I will never forget you as long as I live. Your support and kind words will always be a part of my heart. I thought I would give you a description of our first telephone call and meeting.

My first telephone call to Joseph:

I finally worked up the nerve to call Joseph on July 22. This was six days after receiving his information. My first call was at 7:00 p.m. and the line was busy. Well, I really got nervous. The second telephone call 3 minutes later, again the line was busy. Now I wait 5 minutes and call again. The telephone rings, the answering machine comes on, I listen to his message and elect not to leave a message. Now, I am really sweating, the butterflies are tremendous and I wait until 9:30 p.m. to call back.

Well, it's 9:30 p.m. and I call back. The telephone rings and Joseph's wife, Deanna, answers the phone. I told her who I was, where I was calling from and I ask to speak to Joseph. Joseph answered the phone and I again explained who I was and then I started to explain why I was calling. Now total silence. I can hear Joseph in the background explaining to Deanna about the telephone call. I thought he was going to cry and I prayed that he would not because, I knew that I would breakdown and lose my composure. When Joseph got back on the phone he said, "I have just one thing to say." Well, at that point my heart was somewhere around my big toe and beating so hard I

could see it through the top of my shoes. Joseph said, "thank you, I've had a good life and I have wonderful parents." Well, from here the conversation gets better. We talked, laughed, he answered my questions and I answered his (are you bald by any chance?) We talked for 90 minutes and before we ended our conversation we promised each other that we would stay in touch and meet when the time was right. I told Joseph that I would leave it up to him to call back. I wanted him to understand that I was not there to take over his life. Now 6 days to go by before he calls back. He called me on a Tuesday afternoon at work and said that he finally got up the nerve to call. I told Joseph that I knew how he felt.

Now the first meeting:

We decided to meet in Columbia, SC. This happens to be 30 days after our first conversation. As Joseph walked through the hotel doors it was just like looking in a mirror. We hugged and got down to business of getting to know one another. Up to the room we go, Joseph, Deanna, my wife Ann and daughter, Brandi. On the way to the room Brandi said. "Daddy, now I know what you looked like when you were younger." At this point I begin to strut around like a proud man. While sitting in the hotel room Joseph tells Deanna, "look at Jerry's feet, now i know why my toes are crooked." Well, Joseph takes his shoes off and shows me his toes.

We had a great weekend. One I will never forget. We promised to stay in touch and we do. We talk 2 to 3 times a week and another visit is on the horizon very soon.

Without your help my dreams would still be a dream. Again, thank you. You will always be a part of my family's life and in our prayers forever.

Your advice was well taken. I now realize that Mr S. went to great lengths to cover up the birth of Joseph but, he forgot one important thing, a determined father. It feels wonderful to be complete.

J.
GA

Dear Kinsolving,

Just a short note to let you know that I called my birth sister the evening I received her information from you. She was absolutely delighted that we had found her.

She too, tried to search for us but the agency wouldn't cooperate at all. Even the information she reviewed from them was not true.

We are planning to meet next month and are all counting the days. Thanks for giving me back my sister.

G.
AL



Sister meet for the first time

A family reunion comes with promises for future reunions
by Becky Barnes

After living 52 years without knowing her birth family, Sandy Sageser now has answers. Not all of which are answers she would have picked for herself.

Sandra Lee Warner was adopted at three days old formal hospital in East Strasbourg, Penn. She was nine years old when she was told she was adopted.

Content with her adoptive family, Helen and Sherry Reese, Sandy never set out to find her biological parents.

About 20 years ago, shortly after Sandy's husband Jerry found two biological sisters he didn't know he had, Sandy's curiosity was piqued.

Because hers was a private adoption, records were not readily available. For 20 years she searched seriously. Three years ago she turned the case over to a private investigator with hoped that he could find the family she didn't know.

The Kinsolving firm of North Carolina charged only for successful finds. So Sandy was not surprised that she didn't hear anything for a long time.

But, on June 10, she received a life changing telephone call. Sandy was told that her case was closed. Within hours, she had a fax transmission that gave her a detailed account of her family history.

Her mother, Martha Warner Lauer, died in 1978, about the time Sandy began her search and two years after Sandy left the Pocono Mountain area, where both her biological and adoptive families lived.

While Sandy's chances of seeing the resemblances between her and her mother are gone, she can still listen as her new-found siblings talk about how similar Sandy's hands look like her mother's, about how her niece thinks Sandy's hugs are just like grandma's and coincidental things that can't be explained. On June 26, less than a month after finding her birth family, Sandy was on her way to Pennsylvania to come face-to-face with the sister she never knew and never knew she had.

As the sisters and new-found nieces sat comparing family photographs, one of the nieces spotted a 4-leaf clover in Sandy's wallet.

Eying one another, the nieces then announced that Sandy's mother was never caught without her 4-leaf clover in her own wallet.

Sandy and her sister, Irene Lauer Williams, were both married at 18 years old. They each have four children, all close in age. Sandy's oldest, Shane Mager, is 32; Irene's oldest, Dreick Williams is 33. Bill Mager is 31 and Tonya Williams Stehle is 31. Freddie Mager is 27 and Tyra Williams Boni is 29; Sheley Mager is 25 and Durrand Williams is 28. Sandy and Irene have eight grandchildren each. When Sandy talked with Kevin over the telephone, she started the conversation by asking if he was the son of Martha Warner and Floyd Wayne Lauer. She asked if he was from Pennsylvania and a few other biological questions.

Sandy said that before she could finish all her questions, Kevin asked, "Are you my sister?"

"My biggest fear was rejection," Sandy said. She told her brother of her fear and he soon squelched those by telling her a reunion was long overdue.

When the sisters got together in June, they discussed what had happened in their mother's life that changed the way they would all be raised.

Sandy's mother and Irene's father were childhood sweethearts. They dated until Floyd went into the service in World War II.

Martha allegedly had reason to believe that her sweetheart had found another woman overseas and so she herself turned to another man, Sandy said.

Five months after Sandy's birth and adoption, Martha and Floyd, who had resolved their differences, were married. One year and 17 days after Sandy's birth, Irene was born.

Irene was told when she was eight years old that there was an older sister that was adopted, Sandy said. Kevin and Irene knew that there was another sibling.

Sandy has now met her sister and is looking forward to meeting her brother in October.

"We can only go on from here on build memories to take the place years gone by," Sandy said.

Dear Kinsolving,

I had wonderful parents and a very happy childhood. I cannot recall not knowing that I was adopted and very special. My mom and dad often told me how long they waited for me. I was very well loved and a very happy child. But once in awhile, I would imagine some scenario - my birth mother was a glamorous princess in some small but quaint foreign country or perhaps some brilliant surgeon working in a third world country...but truthfully, I didn't really think about being adopted too much. Some months before my mother died when I was 35 years old, she asked me if I wanted to find my brother - she wanted to help me if I wanted to look for her. I replied that I knew who my mother was and she was standing in front of me and that was that.

Several years later, I had my first child. Suddenly, I was a mother and it was the most wonderful feeling in the world. I couldn't have imagined the love and protectiveness I felt toward my baby. It also brought up many unfamiliar feelings - what would it be like to give up your child - how could you do it and how would you ever get over it...Having a child made me wonder where I came from...where did my baby get beautiful green eyes?

I found Kinsolving on the Internet and then met someone who had used their services. He told me of his search and his new found family. From the moment I spoke to Chris - I

was crazy about her. She understood all of these new feelings I had. And Kinsolving did a terrific job with very sketchy information. Chris has a depth of understanding about the complex emotions regarding adoption. The counseling and guidance Chris gives is worth its weight in gold (she's a good mother hen - listen to her!).

I found out so much information during the search and finally, Chris called me with the news. They found her. I was ecstatic and nervous and ...Quite coincidentally, when I discovered where she lived - I realized a co-worker was from that area. My birth mother was a high school teacher - so I asked this young woman if she knew her, She responded that she adored my birth mother, that she was one of the best teachers she had ever had. She went on and on describing her many wonderful qualities. This young woman in my office actually had a picture of my birth mother - when I saw her, I couldn't believe it - there was my very own face in another person! It was amazing! Then I was simply beside myself! I could barely wait to call her. However, Chris advised me to let the recent findings and feelings sink in and really plan my phone call (as it might be the only conversation that I would ever have with her). I took her advice and planned (and wrote out) very meticulously what I wanted to say. There were two main things - I wanted to know about my potential health concerns and I wanted to tell her that I was okay, that I had had a very happy life with wonderful parents and many, many opportunities. I wanted her to know that from my point of view, her very difficult decision had been good for me. I thought she might want to know that I had turned out pretty well and was a moderately well-adjusted, well-educated, happy adult with a good life.

I waited to call her when I thought she would be at home alone. I was absolutely terrified but also, very excited. Being an optimist by nature, I was certain that the conversation would go well. Well, thank goodness for Chris - she had prepared me for the worst. My birth mother was cold, almost monosyllabic. And she was not pleased to hear from me. I said what I wanted to say and thanked her. I told her a little bit about myself, my parents, and my upbringing. When I asked her questions she responded in a terse, almost rude way. I did find out she had recently had breast cancer and that piece of information was worth the money, the wait and the agony of her rejection. She really did not give me anymore information than I already had (Chris told me more about her than she did). When I realized she was not going to talk to me (at one point in the conversation she said, "What do you want to talk about?" - can you imagine?!), I thanked her again and told her that I hoped I had not upset her too much. She replied, "Have a nice life" - read that "Never call me again!" (So, apparently I got the "nice" gene from the paternal side). It was heartbreaking for me. I couldn't believe that she could have so little interest in her own child - a child that she had given a name, a child that she seemed to have a very difficult time giving up. But that was the truth. Chris was a wonderful counselor to me during those first rough days. I was sad, hurt and angry - just devastated. Chris told me not to ignore the feelings of grief, anger and loss. So, I

worked through them. After a month or so, I did begin to feel better. I'm trying to understand things from my birth mother's perspective. I'm sure she was frightened and completely in shock. She lives in a very small town (the same town she grew up in) and I can imagine she is worried that I might embarrass her and disrupt her life. Well, it seems to me - you are only on this planet once - people need to know where they came from and the truth about their lives. This ought to be a birthright. The reality for me, is that I will never know who my father is and he doesn't even know that I exist.

I don't know if I'll ever call my brother again or not. I have a sister and a brother that one day I would like to meet. But I know who they are and there is some comfort in that. For now, I am taking it slow...if someday I feel like following up on this perhaps I will. But there is some peace and closure in the information that I have.

Dear Kinsolving,

A million, million thanks would not come close to expressing my gratitude to you for finding my son. After 34 years of not knowing what had happened to him when I gave him up for adoption at 6 days old, and 16 years active searching from the time he was 18 there he was in the other end of the phone, in Canada with me in England telling him about the English family he did not even know he had! That was just two weeks ago, and since then the e-mails have been back and forth in a constant stream, videos have been exchanged, letters, phone calls my whole has turned around. In fact I would say I have got it back after 34 years on hold.

I was so grateful for your advice as to how to handle this vital first contact. If it hadn't been for the 'script you helped me prepare, I think I would have been tongue tied and may have been blown it. My heart was pounding so hard as I started to say, very tentatively, what we had prepared and suddenly, unbelievably, he was exclaiming delightedly at the other end of the phone and within minutes we were laughing the last thing I expected to be doing in that situation. That phone call began around 3 a.m. English time (I had been getting his answering machine since 10 p.m. and playing solitaire in the computer to stop from going crazy) and ended about 2 hours later with the birds singing and my next door neighbor under my window calling out 'How did it go?' What a night!!

I feel so lucky and so privileged to be reunited with such a great guy who, if it hadn't been for you, might always have been a stranger to me. I was ready to give up, as you

know, but you encouraged me to keep believing it would happen and I am so very, very grateful.

My warmest wishes,

C., Devon, ENGLAND



Dear Kinsolving,

Good news! This past weekend my son's BF called him and talked to him. His BF also told him he'd like to come down for a few days this winter and they can meet and ski together, etc. It made me SO happy to hear that. The conversation was "light," the BF said, and he was pleased. He said that he plans on calling our son from time to time. I told him what a gift to ME that was, too, and that I was so happy he was willing to fill that place that no one but him could fill for our son.

Sometimes I walk by my "found" son's photo that is on my desk, or one on my living room wall, which is beside his half-brother's photos, and it still amazes me that we have finally been in touch. It had changed my life so incredibly much. I know your job gets hassling and I don't even know what else is probably very difficult about it, but let me tell you that the good it does is so wonderful, I can't thank you enough. I have been haunted by the mysteries and horrors of that adoption for 33 years, and finally the healing has been able to begin. And of course not just for me, but for the Bf and my parents and even my siblings and all the others related in there. Not to mention the truth is coming out on my son's side!

But without your work, all of this would not be possible. In short, thanks for all you do.

Dear Kinsolving,

I know it's been about 9 months since my reunion with my birth mother, but I wanted to drop you a line to let you know what's been happening.

First, I want to start by thanking you from the bottom of my heart. You have given me the opportunity to have the most important things anyone should have and that is a heritage, and a completion of one's self. For the first time in my life I finally feel like a whole person, thanks to Kinsolving.

Since my reunion with my birth mother I have also found my birth dad. Everything could not be going better. I thank God also that I have been one of the lucky ones. Both my birth mom and birth dad have accepted me with open arms. I also have gained a total of three half brothers, and two half sisters. Every day we get to know each other better and at 33 years old I am finally able to fill the blanks.

Thanks for everything and good luck to all. Never lose faith.

A., NY



Dear Kinsolving,

I would like to say "Thank You" for your prompt service and kindness. Kinsolving found my son in one day. I could not have done it without Kinsolving's coaching on what to say to my son when I called him the first time. Thank you Kinsolving - - I highly recommend you to anyone who is searching.

I was living in Canada with my parents on a small farm. I found out I was pregnant at the age of 16. My parents were struggling to make a living and money was very scarce.

My parents wanted what was best for me, so it was decided between them and my boyfriend that it would be best to give the baby up for adoption. I had nothing much to say about it and went along with what was decided. They made all the arrangements for me to go into a Salvation Army Home for Unwed mothers.

I gave birth to a fine baby boy and loved and held him for six days after his birth. Then the Children Aid Society from my town came and took him away. I never heard anything about him again.

Things didn't work out between the baby's father and me after that. I blamed him for having to give up my son. We went our separate ways.

I married a fine young man and we have two lovely daughters, but I never forgot about my first born son.

I always thought about my son and what could he be doing now; is he well; does he have a job? I hoped he wasn't hungry or anything like that. All kinds of thoughts go through a mother's mind. I'm sure you all know what I mean.

I finally started a search with nothing but dead ends. Then I joined AIMA and found out that they don't search outside the United States. Now I was at the beginning again.

One day I spoke with a lady from California and she was the one who told me to join Parent Finders in Canada, which I did. Now I had hope again and through newsletters I found a search buddy. Through my search buddy I found Kinsolving and they found my son in one day. Amazing isn't it?

I had to make the first phone call to my son after 42 years. I was so nervous but thanks to Kinsolving's staff, who coached me I was able to make the call after three days of practicing what to say. I dialed his telephone number and then when I heard his voice and spoke to him for a few minutes, the feelings in my heart were eased. We talked for a long time and it went very well for the first time.

Since then I've called him three more times. He is very close to his adoptive parents. As long as we are communicating with each other, things will work out in time. He sent me some photographs and I sent some of me and his sisters. Hopefully soon we can meet face to face for the first time in 42 years. I can't wait for that day to come!

Regardless of the outcome, I am just so very grateful and happy and fulfilled that I finally found him after 42 long years. I am grateful to know he is well and a well-adjusted, decent human being.

Again, many thanks to Kinsolving for a job well done.

Sincerely,

E., NJ

Dear Kinsolving,

First, I'd like to thank you for finding my birth mother. The service you provide is a very compassionate and necessary one. Your response time was fantastic. The results have been nothing short of amazing.

I found out that I was adopted late in my life at the age of 32. Even knowing that, I waited more than 10 years before taking action to find my birth parents. I must say that I was unprepared for the results of your search: my birth mother along with both older and younger siblings. Even though I had wondered for a long time whether I might have siblings being the middle child was completely out of my realm of possibility.

I waited a few days after you sent me the information and our talk to contact my birth mother. Your advice was invaluable. I had gone so far as to prepare a script with everything I was going to say. Even with that, I was shaking like a leaf (at my age) when I made the call. But when she answered, out went the script. I carefully followed your instruction to make sure the person was able to talk privately and to give her information a little at a time. Initially, as you had advised, the response was negative and in denial. Again as you suggested, I persisted and made it clear that I was confident I was talking to the right person but was still met with denial. Finally, I told my birth mother what name she had given me at birth was and the denial stopped but so did the conversation. She said she would have to call back because now she really couldn't talk. I knew that you advised against letting this happen but when your birth mother concluded the call by saying that I was right after all, I believed that she would call back.

And she did! Less than an hour later she called and we talked for a long time about the "whys" and the "whens" of my adoption, about my family and hers, about her many thoughts about me and about what makes a mother. Even though many questions remain not fully answered, we began a relationship that has grown and continues to grow.

At first she insisted that this was to be strictly between us, somehow my birth mother (or Bio-Mom) found the strength to tell her children about me. So not long after, I received the first of many phone calls. My relationship with my brother and sisters continues to grow through phone calls and email.

The culmination of the search was a gathering after a couple months at my birth mother's home of the entire clan. It was so exciting to meet them after so many years. Now, we have all established excellent relationships.

For my birth mother, it was the first time she had all her children together; for me, it was the first time I had ever been in a room where I actually looked like someone! Interestingly, they all (birth mother, brother and sisters) have said individually that somehow I was indeed missed even though they did not know of me.

So, from the bottom of my heart, I thank you for making this possible.

Sincerely,

Joe



Dear Kinsolving,

I can't thank you enough for the search you did for me! Stacy and I have been in contact by email, daily since the day you gave me her name and phone number. This past weekend, September 4th, I was able to go to her home and meet her face to face for the first time in 26 years! We are so much alike, it's frightening sometimes and the coincidences we've found, well, they can be overwhelming at times. But for anyone out there who hasn't made up their mind to search or to go a step further and get you to do it, well, you've got my recommendation! My life has changed in such positive ways and none of this could have happened without Kinsolving! I have enclosed picture of us together! There would be no doubt she was mine, even if we had not gotten the adoption papers from her mom!

Sincerely,
D.



Dear Kinsolving,

I would be more than happy to talk to any birth mom or adoptee who requests a reference...Especially in my current state of mind! I had another phone call from Leann this morning. She talked to her parents long distance last night (they have been away on vacation and were unavailable until yesterday) and they are so happy too. They are going to be calling me in the next few days to talk and "share." They had suggested to

her several times in the past that she search for me, but she was afraid and/or nor yet ready. Although she said about 6 months ago she did send for an application form to one of the registries and it is still sitting on her desk. (Probably Soundex) I feel like I'm in a fairy tale...And they all lived happily ever after.

J., IL



Dear Kinsolving,

I helped Shane send in an application some time ago. But he wanted to try on his own. He thought he would be able to do it himself without going to an outside source. But, as with most adoptions you have no information to go with. He doesn't know where to go. So here we are. For the last 4 or 5 years he has requested this gift for Christmas - - the name of his birth mother. He's 21 years old and a wonderful son and I feel he should know. I thought when he asked me to help find his birth mother I would be jealous and I was for a moment. I asked him, "Why Shane, do you want to know, you'll always be Shane. You are who you are." He held out his hands and said, "Mom, I want to know who's hands do I have, who's eyes do I have? I don't know where I came from, I just exist. I love both of you but I need to know where I came from." How do you say, "I won't help when you yourself would desire to know the same answer if it were you?" I know our son loves us and we can share that love with others. He, like all adoptees, needs to know where they came from. I wish at age 21 the courts would just give adoptees the names of their birth parents. They have a right to know a secret that is kept from them all their lives.

I hope that you can help us with this present that I pray will be one of the best we have ever shared with our son. I have read of cases where the birth mother did not want to meet her child. I pray this is not the case in Shane's situation. I have to try to prepare him that this could happen or it could turn out to be everything he has hoped for. I hope that what I have felt in my heart from the first time I held Shane is that his birth mother truly did love him but was just not able to keep him. Abortion would have ended that life and for that I will forever thank her. She gave up a treasure that the Lord put in my hands that I can never repay her for. Several months after we had Shane his birth mother took some things to the social worker to give to her baby. Shane had those items and at times I have seen him take them out and hold them. I can say nothing else but I pray with all my heart that she loves him.

B., SC

Dear Kinsolving,

Well sorry it's taken me so long to get back to you with an update but things have really been busy for me and my new extended family! I spoke to my birth mother on Valentines Day of this year for the first time. She was very excited to hear from me and we talked for 2 hours! She told me U had two sisters and they were very happy to find out about me. My birth mom flew up to see me the next weekend and we were amazed at the resemblance not only in our appearances but our mannerisms as well. I didn't know what she looked like before she got off the plane but I knew who she was the minute I saw her, it was very emotional for the both of us.

One of my sisters was getting married the next month so I was able to be there for her wedding which was very special! Also, we went on our first "family" vacation this past July. As you can see we are very close and communicate a lot.

My birth mom and I tries to locate my birth father but we couldn't so my birth mom hires you to find my birth dad and that has turned out to be wonderful. I have a sister and a brother from my birth father. He was very shocked because he thought I was a boy all these years and that's who he was looking for. He was very pleased that O had found him and we are making plans to see each other after Christmas. I can't thank you enough for the joy you have brought into my life not once but twice.

I myself am a birth mother and my son will be 18 in six more years. If I am unable to find him on my own I will definitely use your service again. I have also recommended your services to others who I know are searching. Thanks Again!

H., Florida



Dear Friends at Kinsolving,

My sister and I are writing to express our profound thanks for your expert, speedy and compassionate handling of the search for our brother "Mike."

You began your investigation for us in the middle of October 199. By the end of January 1998 you had successfully located Mike in Cheyenne, WY. We made immediate contact.

Mike, my sister, Vicky, two years younger than Mike, and I, ten years older than my brother, had unsuccessfully searched for many years. Mike had been given up for adoption in Denver, CO., in 1948 because of marital problems between my mother and step-dad. I was ten years old at the time. Mike left our home to an adoption agency. He was four months old at the time. My sad memories for fifty years were of an empty bassinet when I got home from school that day. I always prayed that through some way or miracle I would find him again. My mom was very sorrowful also and carried so much guilt for giving him up. Before she passed away I said I would keep looking for him.

In Colorado the adoption records were sealed, so when I would contact the agency, they say, "yes, we have the records, but cannot open them." I put our names in WARM, ALMA, Soundex, etc., also Locators International. They were all caring and helping but could only go so far. Then one day we got a little ad in the mail for Kinsolving Investigations. So, my sister and our husbands and I all agreed to try as a last resort. So all our hopes and prayers and dreams came true this year after a long fifty year separation. It was wonderful to find him alive and well in Wyoming, married to a great lady named Juanita, dad to ten step kids and grand dad to quite a few. They have a great life. They came out to visit us here in Oregon this July.

What a happy reunion it was for all of us. Of course, we had to look for all the physical and spiritual similarities of which we discovered many. Especially to find spiritual kinship. Enclosed is a picture of myself in the left, Pat, sister Vicky and Juanita, wife of Mike who makes real enchiladas and last on the right, our brother Mike.

Incidentally, his adoptive parents named him Mike for a middle name. We are looking forward to more great reunions in the future, Thanks again to the excellent caring staff at Kinsolving Investigations. Keep up the great work.

P. & V., OR



Dear Chris,

I wanted to drop you a note to let you know that you will always be special in my heart for bringing me a precious gift, my Mom. I contacted her on Sunday after playing tag with her over the phone every time I called she had just gone out. I started the conversation just as you said and after I gave my DOB and my adoption information there was total silence, so I asked if this sounded familiar and she said of course, you're

my baby girl. Well with that the tears flowed from both of us, but we managed to still talk for a two hours. She was so open about everything, she had been so afraid over the years that I would hate her and not understand, I tried so hard to reassure that that was not the case, she's my Mom and I love her. Well we are planning on meeting sometime soon even though we both know tears will flow again.

Again, Chris thank you from the bottom of my heart, you are an Angel sent from God.

L., NY



Dear Kinsolving,

After a very short time of sending you my information you found both my birth mother and birth father. I was so shocked. I've spoken with both for many, many hours as well as with a half-sister. We are planning to visit in the near future - they've all completely embraced me. The story is quite incredible and I'll send details when I have the time to sit and work them out, probably after our reunions. You took a thought in my mind of possibly having "family" out there and made it, miraculously, into a reality.

I have already referred you many times!

Thank you ever so much again.

I. H., Conn.



Dear Kinsolving,

If you ever want to consider using me as a reference, the answer is "absolutely." In fact, I insist.

It has been a year now and still nothing out of Diane. Never so much as a card or call. I guess she has done as she did after placing Don for adoption...got on with her life. Sometimes I am surprised that she hasn't called then other times I just take it all with a grain of salt as I have known many other self centered people over the years. I tried to

make her feel more than welcomed to join in on Don's life but I guess that is impossible for her to do for whatever reason. It is really such a shame as his life is now full of really exciting things that I am sure most Moms would want to be a part of. He will be opening up his own firm within the next week or so. He is really quite excited about it and right now is much like the cat on the marble floor.

He also told us that a new little one is expected next year. This will be number four for him.

Don has never brought up the subject of Diane since she decided to have no contact. The only thing was her MOM asked if she could have a photo of Don, which I finally did get around to sending her last month. It was one on the Lake with all three of the kids in it. Both Don and I felt the adoption was decided by Diane and it was a fact that the Grandmother just had to live with. There is no reason now, thirty years after the fact to still keep her in the dark. She is most welcome to call or even come for a visit as we will afford her every opportunity to have a relationship with Don in spite of Diane.

If you need to use an update in your newsletter please feel free to pass on my latest information. It is important for those searching to know and realize that not all BM want to be found. I still feel I did the right thing. I was able to express my thanks and let this BM know that Don was truly a wonderful child who has grown into a wonderful man. This wasn't a bad reunion, when things worked out as they did it seemed to make this family bond even more. I really think it is good to keep people well informed and updated as each reunion and search is different yet they have a common thread.

Love,

H & R

Dear Kinsolving,

My reunion in Oklahoma with my birth mother was SUCCESSFUL thanks to your information update.

I am thrilled.

I thank God for you and your dedication in searching for us all. You have given me, with God's help, the best gift anyone could give -- access and opportunity to bond with my birth mother and sister.

K.,OK



Dear Kinsolving,

When I sat down to write you a note, I realized how hard it is to say thanks for something that meant so very much.

With love and heartfelt appreciation for all you did.

J., NY