

Greetings!

I just wanted to continue to update you on the events since you completed my search. Attached is a brief (for me!) description of my contact with my relinquished son. Feel free to use it in your newsletter if that is appropriate.

I can't thank you enough for the joy this reunion has brought into our lives.

Have a joyful day!

JW/PA



It was almost time to leave. I was about to meet the son that I had relinquished nearly 37 years ago. My other three children were there to offer support. They commented on my appearance and gave encouragement. I rehearsed in my head what I was going to say to my son and his parents.

I had thought about this moment often in the course of the last thirty-seven years. Many false starts had been made: registering with adoption assist groups, contacting the obstetricians who had delivered the baby, posting on birth family websites. I had contacted Kinsolving Investigations eight years before, but never signed a contract. Finally, in March 2006, it was time.

Three months later, I received the email message that I had anticipated: Your case has been completed. But I was on vacation with my sister and didn't have access to the funds to complete payment on the fee. So I had to suspend my curiosity for another few days. Upon my return home three days later, I sent the funds as directed. The information would be in my email inbox within 24 hours.

That night a storm hit. Our Internet connection went down. The file was waiting, but I couldn't retrieve it. So I drove to a local teachers center and went to their computer lab. As I logged onto my account, the power went out throughout the building. The lights came on via generator power, but the computer lab was closed for the day. God has a strange sense of humor, I thought. So I resigned myself to another day's delay.

That evening my son called. Well? he asked. I recited the story of the power outages. Unable to wait any longer, he logged onto my email account from his home and read the information to me.

Imagine my surprise to find that the son I had given up so many years ago currently lived less than ten miles away! But now that I had the information, new decisions loomed.

I decided to write a letter. That would allow my son to read it at his leisure, digest the information, and determine what to do. In my letter, I attempted to answer the questions that I assumed he had: why had I relinquished, why had I searched, why now? I also included information about my family. I concluded by letting him know that I would not pursue communication if that wasn't what he wanted. I included all my contact information.

Three days later I received an email from him. The subject line read Hello and thank you. In addition to admitting how overwhelmed he felt at the moment, he wrote, I can't find words sufficient to thank you for giving me life and then allowing me to be adopted into a great family. Tears welled in my eyes as I realized that the prayers I had raised on his behalf through the years had been answered. My child had grown up in a secure, loving family. And he didn't hate me.

Although he expressed interest in getting to know me, he asked for time to process and to break the news to his parents.

Now that I had finally taken this step, patience was difficult. At last, six weeks later, everything was in place. Armed with documentation supporting my claims, I headed for the restaurant where I was to meet J and his parents. In the car, I rehearsed what I was going to say to my son and his mother.

I approached the restaurant lobby. As I was about to extend my hand, my son opened his arms for a hug. Our relationship began.

In the two weeks that have followed, my son has met his biological siblings. We have all carried on extensive email communication, exchanging stories, journal entries, poetry, and emotions. In addition to the physical similarities, we are discovering habits and perspectives that match. One of my other sons commented that it was like an experiment in nature versus nature.

He & I are going to spend some one-on-one time together soon. A date has been scheduled for him to meet his extended family. As my birthson put it in a recent email, I have had an incredible journey already, and I'm excited about where things go next.

Thanks so much for all your help. L and I talk all the time and have met twice. She has moved to NC and I to VA, but we plan to see each other as much as possible. I will also meet her kids soon. Thanks again, A-NC

Hi !

Just wanted to let you know that I have made contact with my son thanks to you people. I sent a letter to him and last week he sent one back to me with a picture of himself and two children.. He has my eyes ! I don't know where it will go from here but I have found the missing piece to my life's puzzle.. I am thrilled that he is well and adjusted to life as an adopted person.. He always knew he was adopted but chose not to look for his birth parents. I would never have found him looking through registries etc...the money spent was well worth it.. If you ever need someone to use as a reference please use me..Again THANK YOU.

LC/PA

Dear Chris:

I want to thank you again for finding my brother for me 10 years ago.

I am currently helping a friend with a search and keep running into brick walls. I am hoping you can help us, you are our last resort. She thought she had found her b/m a couple years ago through a registry. Everything matched except the woman was unsure of the exact year that her daughter was born. She flew to TN to meet her and had a DNA test done and it came back negative. The whole thing cost her \$1,700 and destroyed her emotionally. She does not want to put herself through it again without being 100%

certain. Her daughter and I are doing the search for her. She is willing to pay for your services if you can help. The problem was that the adoption was not done legitimately. The doctor who delivered her issued a FALSE birth certificate with incorrect information. The parents names on the one she has does not even have the correct information of the adoptive parents.

She was born in a small area in TN. The b/m probably not married and her family could not afford to pay the medical expenses and turned the baby over to the doctor at birth. The b/m was admitted into the hospital under the

adoptive parents name. Her adoptive mothers aunt was a nurse at the hospital (she is now deceased) and took the baby immediately after she was born to her house until the adoptive parents could fly up from Miami and pick her up.

Please let us know if you can help us. Thank you.

LB/TN



I just wanted to thank you for locating my birth mother. We ended up calling her 2 Saturdays ago. I had my husband talk to her first. We will be meeting her on Sunday of this week. Once again, thank you for all your help.

DG/PA



I wanted to give you a quick update on my birth mother contact. I tried to use as many techniques as I could that you recommended but honestly it was tough and I had to wing it overall. I called last Thursday 3pm. She was very receptive and sweet. Inquired about me and seemed to care. She indicated that her husband and children do not know of me (not the Birth father). She indicated that her husband in particular and family will not receive the situation very well. The husband has the post traumatic syndrome..... I indicated that was okay and up to her. She is not able to drive so would have to rely on family to see me. She has no family except her husband. I spoke with her for 25 great minutes until the husband came home and she had to get off. We really seemed to hit it off. She sounded and talked (articulated) a lot like me. I truly enjoyed the moment but was concerned that she may never contact me again. I indicated that I would respect her situation. I certainly did not get all the answers but it was still great. Thank goodness she emailed later (4pm) and set up a new yahoo account. She was perfect, saying all the right things and seemed to indicate she would continue contact. A quote from her "I know I'm not your parent, but just your biological mother, but I love you very much, and can't wait to hear from you again". This was as good as I could ever expect. I responded with a heart felt and understanding reply, not too pushy or gushy. Just stating my understanding of her situation, respect of her, and just basic wants to get to know her a bit if possible.

She has not replied yet. I know it was a holiday with lots of people around but I am anxious. I sent a very short additional email to her Sunday saying happy Easter and attached a photo of me and the wife. I do not plan to email or call again for a good long while. Don't want to seem like a stalker. I am anxious and impatient to say the least but I understand I have to chill out. Its hard to relax and just go with it in this type of situation, as you know.

Anyway, your information was dead on accurate. Any thoughts would be great.

Thanks again Chris!

This has been one of the most amazing things in my life. Thanks for your hard work.

Regards,

CG/NY



Hi Chris,

Many months ago, I wrote, asking how much it would be to find the birthfather of my birthdaughter, and you had quoted me.....Please let me know if this still stands, as I have saved that \$\$\$...Four years ago, you found my birthdaughter for me, and we have a wonderful relationship, and I have a one year old granddaughter, this Feb. 25th....My first!! I await your reply..Sincerely,

FM/NJ



Hi Chris,

Thank you again for all your support today. I wrote down every word you said and rehearsed and rehearsed. I made the call. When her husband answered I just left my name, no message, no number, I simply said I would call back later. About a half an hour later the phone rings.....it is JA calling me. We talked and it was wonderful. We both cried and shared our stories. She has told no one. Only her mother knew and she is deceased. But the connection has been made and she is very willing to share all the information I've requested, and even more.

Many thanks for your expertise and support.

DC/CA

Yes, after so many years we heard about Kinsolving and took advantage of it. You found the birthmother of my daughter. It broke our hearts that this lady wanted nothing to do with her first born daughter. She has a son living in Colorado. He had moved on from the first address we had. I had surgery in December and haven't gotten back into trying. My daughter was so hurt over the rejection that she just won't talk about it again. Anyway, so far. If I could find this brother maybe she would. You just found this lady with a miracle as the name we had was completely wrong but I had remembered good facts that helped her. Thanks Again.

MP/CA

Miss Lee We ended up with only a three hour conversation. So I think every thing will work out just fine. thank you very much and if you ever get around and need anything please feel free to call and ask me. God bless.

T - NC

This is just to let you know that you can count another success story. :-D
After I received your report, I wrote a long letter to my son. In it I attempted to explain my reasons for relinquishment and introduce myself and the extended family. I received an email from him almost immediately. We have exchanged emails & photos since. His correspondence indicates a strong interest in getting to know me, as well as his siblings, aunts, uncles, and cousins. I am thrilled to learn that he has had a very good life and grew up in a loving, supportive home. We have not met yet. He promised his parents that he would include them in any dialogue with his biological relatives. Since they are in the process of a move, he is waiting until they're settled before approaching them with the news. Also he admitted that he needed a little time to digest & process the information. We are tentatively scheduled to meet in early August.
I'll keep you posted.

JW/PA

Many thanks for your work. Our reunion is going well.

CH/Canada



Hi Chris, I hope you have been well! You might remember you helped me find my birth parents a few years back and I am pleased to note I now have a great relationship with them and also with my parents. It has really worked out well and helped me move forward with various areas of my life.

LBJ - NC



Hi Chris, we've never spoken since I had contact with N. I wanted to let you know how things have progressed. I know you've heard hundreds of stories, but read on if you'd like mine.... It was not an easy phone call. My experience of her was suspicious and cold. But she didn't hang up. I asked questions, she gave me curt answers, she seemed incurious about me. I was glad to have made contact, but I was agitated and hurt. To hear this woman's voice, just to know her name had been a dream of mine for so long, and it seemed she could care less. I told her that one of the things that had been driving me to find her was that I wanted her to know that I was okay. She said she figured I had been. (Gosh, that was money well spent!) She was sure that laws had been broken, I think lawsuit was going through her mind; I assured her that CHS had not breached their contract. I recently begun studying to be a minister, so at the time, I was taking a chaplaincy course at the hospital, and the next day I spent some time with the chaplain who counsels people giving children up for adoption. She said that if someone is at heart really wanting to keep their child, but has to make this choice, they psychologically have to put the baby "in a box" and lock it, convincing themselves that it is all okay, for the best. And move on. In light of how she responded to my call, this made a lot of sense. And I was so glad she had been able to move on. I also realize now that she was in complete shock, she had long ago given up any inkling that she would ever meet me, and my phone call must have just floored her. That was October 14th. We spoke again a week later, we arranged to meet a couple of weeks after that. What an incredible thing to see this beautiful woman who had given me life! She was guarded but kind. She mailed me a picture of my birth father (who was from NC), who she had a married a year or so after my birth and had two more children with. He died in 1980 of cirrhosis of

the liver. She apologized about initially "making it more difficult." Over Thanksgiving she told her daughters about me. I met them both at Christmastime, and we spent a lovely afternoon together. She has told her 91 year old father about me, I hope to meet him soon. Anyway, it has been an amazing journey. You know, it took me several years to avail myself of your services; I was feeling too scarce with my money, untrusting of you, and that surely I could, maybe should, do this search myself. But it wasn't happening, I wasn't doing the work, and the time was ticking. I finally contracted with you. And when you sent me her name, I felt like just having that alone was worth every penny. And best of all was the incredible coaching you gave me that afternoon, helping me to prepare for making contact. Those pages of notes got me through that initial phone call. I used every piece of advice you gave me. I started talking. And over and over again, I reassured her that I had no ill intent in seeking her. I stayed focused on the relationship I wanted to create with her. As you had told me, I reminded myself that this was only a beginning. I was obsequious, humble, loving. And it worked. She is happy that I found her, I have another family. Soon, I think she will meet my dear parents, who have reacted lovingly to this news, now that they realize it doesn't mean they have lost me in any way. Christine, thank you so much for being you, for making it possible for me to find some missing pieces in my life. You have truly given me (and N, and my sisters) a gift. I'm also aware that this would have never happened had you not had your own adoption experience with your birth daughter. It is a strange and linked and wonderful universe that the intimate details of your life should be so causal in mine. And who knows what works of strangers are creating for us right now, what we are creating for others..... I don't know if we shall ever meet face to face, but I am in NC, please call if you are ever here, I would be honored to meet you. A final interesting thing: My sister that is three years younger is named E. My whole name is SE, I'm called SE childhood imaginary friend was named S. She was, like me, a geology major in college. In the photograph, I am the one in the black leather coat, E is next to me. Your most memorable piece of advice was, "No matter what happens, you are still YOU" This little nugget I think of often, have shared it with others. Thank you.

Sincerely,
SBS - NC



Hi Guys,

I spoke with my Bmom tonight, and wanted to let you know it went great. She said she's been searching for me for years, and was amazed and thrilled that I found her. She never had other kids, has no siblings, her

parents both passed away over the past couple of years (which we knew), and she is going through a divorce. She has no family, and was very happy to hear from me. I Emailed some pictures to her, and we plan to keep in touch. I guess we'll see how it goes. Thank you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

BB/FL

Dear Kinsolving:

My name is PG - MN and back in early 2004, you were able to locate my birth mother who lives in rural VA. At the time I was notified as to her location, your file stated that she was known to be very ill. Being 36 years old at the time, I felt a sense of urgency to contact her. I knew that I did not want to put her in an uncomfortable situation. So, I had a priest friend of mine contact her as a "go-between." He contacted her by phone on April 17, 2004 and they spoke for nearly an hour. I didn't hear from her again until January 2, 2005. It turns out that at the time she was initially contacted in April, she had just come home from being in hospital. She had a severe infection that resulted in meningitis. She nearly died and had been in a coma for a week! That explains why your report stated that she was known to very ill. Shortly thereafter, her own mother's health started to deteriorate and she ultimately passed away in October of 2004. With her mother having passed away, S (my birth mom) later told me that she felt more "liberated" to return my contact. And so, on January 2nd, her phone call arrived. I just wanted to FINALLY contact you to let you know that the entire experience of making contact and us getting to know each other has been extremely positive. It turns out that I have a half-sister and a half-brother (who is also gay) and we all get along wonderfully! We see each other every two months. And since I work for an airline, it's easy for us to get together. Your agency gave S so much peace and closure by reuniting us. Her immediate family and friends tell me that she's been so much more happy since we were brought together. I wanted to thank you for providing such an importance service to those of us who either were adopted or gave someone up for adoption. My adoptive parents (ie. my true parents) were a bit sensitive when S and I initially made contact. But I was very sensitive to their concerns. Over time, I think that they've come to realize that my new relationship with S is nothing to fear. And I have given my parents extra attention and love! I know that not all experiences regarding reunions are not positive...and I was prepared for that. But I thank the Lord and your organization for bringing us all together. Thanks again for all your work. It is greatly

appreciated!
Sincerely,
PG - MN

On November 18, 1969, I gave birth to a 9 pound baby boy. Through no choice of my own I HAD to give him up for adoption Well last week I hired a PI, Kinsolving Investigations. Today I received a e-mail they have found him, so after I pay their fee I will know the details of my first born. I am so nervous and scared, but excited at the same time. I just hope when I do contact him he won't turn away. Life is just to short for that. At least no matter how it turns out I will now have a name and address and occupation, That will be closure. If I end up with some sort of relationship that will be great too, although I am not setting my hopes that high. I will keep you all posted Just wanted to let you know where I am today
BE - PA

My name is AP - MO. You helped my husband, DP - MO, last year find his birth mom. He has not gotten the nerve to contact her and probably will not have it in the near future. But I do think it satisfied some of his curiosity.
As you probably know, we are in MO and I am very interested in your kind of work. If you ever need anyone to perform any odd jobs for you in the MO area, let me know. I love genealogy and love searching. I naturally have a curious mind and would find the work fascinating.
I wanted to let you know Chris about 2 years ago you helped me find my mother and things didn't work out with her but I found my father and my brothers and sisters and my life has been great with the exception of a divorce and dealing with an ass of an ex-husband. I just wanted to take this time to thank you again this morning and say what a job well done, hope you have a wonderful day!
Sincerley,
WH - Oxford

Kinsolving has already found my birth mother - 3 years ago. And you did a great job!. We have been reunited and enjoy our visits very much. My birth mother gave me the name of my birthfather- he has been deceased for 20 years. So I have no one left to search for.

Many thanks,

DO/NY

Dear Kinsolving,

Just when I was about to give up my searching and access your help, I found my birth mother. I see you are in N.C. Interestingly enough, my birth mother is from a prominent family from your state of North Carolina. I appreciate that your services are out there and realize you could have found her much faster. The process of the search for me was long and arduous, it took over 20 years on my own. The interesting thing is I was born in San Diego in 1953 and grew up in the west. I knew she was from the South but for a long time I was misled to think Louisiana. I finally found the state where my adoption took place and was able to petition the courts for my decree, which finally gave me a name but nothing else to go on. Thank goodness she was named after a great aunt and that led my search to focus on North Carolina, that was 2 years ago. With all of this said, I want to let you know your current emailing is a very good one and it is so true. Even though I did not have to access your help I want to let your company know that I appreciate that fact that your services are out there. They are reputable among the adoption world that I've been involved with and I will encourage other adoptees who are able to access your services to do so.

Thank you,

CN

Hi Chris! Thank you so much for emailing the info on a Saturday. I couldn't wait any longer so I called my bm and she answered the phone. She cried and cried! She was very happy to hear from me. I talked to her for about 45 minutes. She even put her sister on the phone. She is going to call me back tomorrow. We are going to exchange pictures next week thru the mail. She told me my BF's name but she had no idea where he was now and she's not sure how to spell his last name. I hope that eventually I will find him. Thank you SOOOOO much! JA/NY

Hi there,

Here's an update. I decided to make contact with my brother. I felt drawn to do that for some reason. He is so nice. B is a little evasive with him but I've given him enough info that I think he's very certain that we are siblings. We are both in sales and were both in the military right out of school. We both have 2 kids.

I have not seen him yet but he told me tonight that his brother in law looked at my family website and said that if

someone stuck a goatee on me that I would be him. K's wife also thinks that I look like B, the birth mother. He is sending me pictures of himself and B soon.

He still has a lot to work ahead with her. He said she is a proud person and I think she's embarrassed that this has come out. She did not deny it and the data that I gave K filled in a lot of gaps that he had. He did say that she made a comment like "I have never gotten away with anything in my life, there are things you do not know". I reassured him that I have not passed judgement and to let her know that she did the right thing and I was very loved and cared for. My adoptive mother is really excited for me too.

It looks like I get my passion for gardening, painting and cats from my birth mother. The rumor of my father being a policeman fits into her history too. She used to tell a lot of stories about cops so it seems. The younger brother seems to be somewhat of a wild one, more like his father than like B, K or myself. K said we should hold off on that introduction and I feel like I can trust his advice in that.

I have a feeling he was protecting me a bit.

Anyhow... thanks so much for helping me complete my story. I have quite a journey in front of me and I am very excited to learn more about who I am. My brother and I are going to talk again later in the weekend. It is so strange to say that.

RB - CA



Dear Chris

I couldn't wait any longer to thank you both - not just for my remarkable find - but for all you do. I've been witnessing the results of your successes via NYA group, and you are changing lives. In my own case, I have heard from so many relatives - my aunt, sister, cousins and of course, D - my birthmom. Thank you is inadequate - but all I have.

Very best to you,
SM/NY

Asking about her worked, you are good! She emailed me within hours. Thank you so much! If I can ever offer a letter of recommendation or help you in any way please let me know. Your work and help over the last year+ is truly appreciated! I have a lot of exciting things to look forward to through this reunion no matter how limited the capacity. Thanks for your hard work, patience with my case, and continued support.
Sincerely,

CG/NC

As you know I am still trying to find my other brother desperately. Again if you ever find him or any info at all I would gladly pay the cost. He is the brother who holds all the answers I've been searching for. My other brother doesn't know much at all, and has no idea where he's been for 6-7 years. I did go to California in May with my family, and I met my aunt and my other brother. It was wonderful, but my aunt still will not reveal what happened or answer the questions I have. She has too many skeletons in the closet. I visited my mother's grave too. None of which I could have done without you. I'm forever grateful to you so if you ever hit pay dirt on the other brother please let me know.

Sincerely,

LL/NY

Never give up!!! Only in giving up do you fail.

Hi Chris, just wanted to give you an update.....

Contacted my birth mother again about a week later per our discussion. It went very well. We had a nice long talk, she confirmed a lot of the facts that you were able to gather. We have exchanged a couple of emails. Sent her a couple of my baby pictures. Am currently waiting on some pictures that she is sending me. Says she wants to meet with me at some point. Seems to be a very nice person.

Found out that my birth father has no idea I exist. Would like to have some advice from you on how to handle that circumstance. Would like to get in contact with that side at some point. Thanks again for all your efforts. Later and thank you again.

DS/CA

I have relocated, gotten divorced, and gotten remarried since you last had my contact information. I also wanted to say thank you for what you did for me 4 1/2 years ago - finding my birthmom. It is still amazing to me that piece of my life has fit into my overall puzzle. We have a very close relationship and all of my parents met this December at my wedding and it was great!

Sincerely,
GS/NY



Hi Chris

A few things. First I can't thank you enough. My reunion is absolutely wonderful. The a-parents are nice. We actually all celebrated L's birthday together last year and it was a dream come true. L is a great girl and everyone gets along. We are all very happy. In fact, her A-parents THANKED me for finding her. Said she needed to find me to be whole. My husband died shortly afterward. It was nice that he got to meet her first. And that she was able to come to the wake and be there for me. Of course, I give your name to anyone who is searching whenever I can.

Another thing: The A.C. search. I know you gave me a deal cause i was trying to help her and I thank you for that too. I think at one point we werent sure if she really needed the money but I can tell you now that she did. . So she did need us. Her reunion hasnt been the greatest but something that I thought was nice: she offered another B-mom a place to stay to help her get her life together. I have a strong feeling that that was her way of paying what we did for her forward. So maybe this B-mom will do something for some else one day. While that doesnt pay your rent I thought it was kind of cool.

Hugs
CM/NC



Hi, Chris and Kinsolving Staff,

In your winter 06 edition of the newsletter my report of finding a cousin who opened her heart and door appears. We have a terrific relationship that just keeps getting better. There is a bit of sad news to report, however. On 1 Jan 06 while working on my genealogy projects I typed in the name of my biomother and learned that she had died on 24 Sept 2005. I called my cousin who didn't know this. If you recall, this collection of sisters is not close. So in an effort to find out what she could my cousin called one of the aunts. With the premise of wanting to know who some folks are in pictures which she

has, and this is true but the key that got a door open, they had a pleasant visit on the phone and during the course of conversation my cousin was told of L's death. My sister, of some kind..not sure if it is half or step since word is my biomother married a man who had been divorced, had called another aunt(the only one she could find a phone number for) and told her that she had gone to see L and that when she got there she didn't look well. My biomother said she didn't feel well. Long story short, she was flown to Denver where she died a little after midnight of the morning of the 24th and was told it was "congestive heart failure" the aunt thought. Not to be deterred finding out what the cause was, I sent to the state for the copy of the death certificate. Having told the office of my status in relation to the grandparents and having no problem receiving a copy of the death certificates, it was surprising to be told that as I was "adopted out my status changed and you are not entitled to that information." I told the woman I wanted to know the cause of death to which I was told " well it could have been a car accident! And anyway the death certificate wouldn't give health history. To this I said, yes it could be a car accident but it could also be heart attack, ALS, Cancer, or any other of a number of health issues that would give a clue to health matters" Then the woman said nastily " well you can always try to get a court order and then we would have to give the information to you whether we want to or not."....Enter my cousin....I sent her all the information and the few bucks to cover the cost and last Thursday she got the certificate which said that my biomother died of a "massive myocardial infarction". She was 82. I was always hoping that one day L would come around to having the courage to call and finally talk to me about the biofather but she never did. And Catholic Charities told me, when doing the search, that he had such a common Irish name and a questionable address (I presume on the documents they have) that they really didn't try to locate him. I don't know what it would take to find him now. In any event, I am happy to have the information I do have and without Kinsolving that would not have been possible. As things do develop I'll keep you informed!

MO - CA



Thanks for that! I've already talked with my birthmother and my birthsister! Wonderful conversations - and I feel that the time was just right for all of us. I know that we will be fine and it's a very exciting and happy time for all of us. It's funny - both of them talk/ think like I do - we sort of finish each others thoughts and sentences. It's like instant communications. How amazing is that. My birthmother's comment was that this day is for her a "miracle" - I second that. Thank you so much!

SM/NY