

Hi. I am GW and 4 or 5 years ago I contacted you and had you find my birth parents. I contacted them and they rejected me but that is not the end of the story. I'd like to share my story with you and anyone it may help.

I was nervous about trusting you. I was suppose to send my money to you before I got the information. It was the internet, easy to get ripped off (I thought). It wasn't exactly a small amount of money. So with a leap of faith, I sent the money and I immediately recieved the information about my birth parents, their siblings, that I had a sister, information on her and her children. I got a lot for my money. So I did the parent thing and was rebuffed. Then I contacted my sister. (As it turned out my birth mother married my birth father a year after I was born so my sister if my full sister!) Well we were both raised as only children and that gave us even more in common. We are now becoming the very best of friends. We are in touch daily via email. We write regularly and we even have a youngest daughter with the same name!!

I want to share that this has given a whole new demension to my life.

My sister has shared family history with me. I know a lot about who my ancestors were and what they did. We are alike in so many ways. This all occurred after I was in my 50's. So my sister and I are making up for lost time. (At Christmas she sent me cookies and said they represent all the cookies we didn't get to share as kids) My life is so much more "grounded" now. I know who I am and that makes so much difference. Our parents don't know that we are in touch with each other. It does not serve any purpose for them to know. They are elderly and set in their ways. But my sister and I now have each other and it just doesn't get any better than that.

GW



Chris- I just wanted to let you know all is well here. You helped me find my biological mother and sibling last December.(unfortunately, my b. father had passed away 9 months prior and my other b. sibling ten years before).

It was a great decision- one I will never regret. We have met once and communicate frequently. I truly now understand the nature/nurture meaning. I appreciate your kind heart- you were truly supportive and understanding for me at the time. I am very grateful! God Bless-

MB

Chris,

This is letting you know that I owe you my life! I met my daughter yesterday, and everything went GREAT! She is beautiful! I also a healthy Grandson! The first thing he done was smile at me!He is such a happy kid!

As for my daughter, she told me she had been looking for me too. She had been to Social Services, wrote them letters and they wouldn't tell her a thing! She asked me lots of questions about how I found her, and I was honest. I told her about you and she is greatful! I stayed down at her house until around 6pm last night, and she wants me back down there around lunch today! Guess thats where I'll be heading around that time! Question- At this point is there such a thing as "wearing out your welcome"? *smile* I sure hope not! At this point I'm just being that "Mom" figure that I've never been! I will write more later..... just wanted to say thanks for now!

"THANKS CHRIS.You have made my DREAM come true! I love you!!

Smile

LM NC

Dear KI,

Many thanks to you for your assistance in my search for my birth parents. After receiving your call and information, I contacted my birth mother in August 2000. This was the most difficult telephone call I have ever made, as I did not know what type of response I would receive. My birth mother was very receptive and told me she has waited all her life for me to call. We would talk every week with each other and we still do.

We finally met in October 2000. She and her husband came to my home. It was truly one of the happiest days of my life, not only for me, but for my children also. She has told me about my birth father. We also have met him and we talk often. I now have a large family thanks to you. I have five new sisters. They also welcomed me and my family with open arms. The past eight months has been very emotional. We are learning alot about each other and we are developing good relationships. I can not thank you enough

for helping me. My life has changed for the better. I am truly blessed as I now have two wonderful families.

GH/DC



Hi:

Just wanted to give the two of you a brief update on R's family. As soon as I gave her the information, she could not wait. She contacted her oldest sibling, on Thursday night and was on the phone with her for a while. She was a bit shocked and had some recollection of what had happened many years ago. Apparently, there were six siblings before my sister when her mother was pregnant with her (as you already know). Her mother was very catholic and would not consider an abortion. The family had lost everything and were very poor at the time and I guess they could not afford to raise another child. Her mother was also very devastated over giving her up for adoption. The family was then split up with two children remaining in Manhattan, two going to live with an Aunt and two living with their parents on Long Island. It took several years for the parents to get back on their feet financially, at which point the family was reunited together and then several years later they had two more children. Her mother had battled with a brain tumor and died at the age of 55 (which would have been when she was about 23), so I see that about the time my sister was 18 she probably was battling cancer and did not have the ability to search for her and then died before she could have even tried. And then her father died two years later (not known yet as to how he died). In any case, they left off with her saying that she was going to contact the rest of the family and get back to her. So on Saturday, she went to each siblings house (all of which had no recollection...only the sibling in California remembers) and told them individually in person that she had contacted them and that they had another sibling. So she called R back late Saturday and asked if she could come out to her house on Long Island at 5:00 pm this Tuesday, where all of them will be there with their husbands to meet her. They are either taking off from work or leaving early...and the reason she wanted to do this so quickly is because she is scheduled to leave for Florida (remember summer home in Florida??) this week. So I am going with her to meet all of her family on Tuesday and to find out what really happened. R seems to be taking this very well considering she was separated from 8 of her full siblings. But I always tell her that everything happens for a reason and that she probably had a much better life than she could imagine. Anyway, another adoption chapter closed and voids finally filled. I will keep you posted with more information after the reunion on Tuesday, and feel free to publish this note for the Vanguard. Thank you so much and really looking forward to seeing you in North Carolina this year!!

PP NY >>

Last Friday I drove to G to introduce myself to S, planning to get there around lunchtime and to try to get him off by himself. He had already gone to lunch, with his father it turns out, so I went ahead and had lunch on my own. Then I went back and asked for him.

This tall, handsome, open-faced young man came striding toward me with his hand out. I put my hand in his and my heart stopped. "May I speak with you privately for a moment?" I asked him. He escorted me to his office and closed the door. "This is the second hardest thing I have ever done," I said softly. "You and I had a rendezvous with destiny in 1967. I am your birth mother." I felt God himself embrace me in that moment.

His eyes widened, he came forward in his chair and said, simply "Wow!". We talked there for a few minutes, then we left and he took me to his house, showed me his family pictures, talked about his passions for so many various things. He talked about how he adored his parents but how his interests were so much larger than theirs and how he hated to be fenced in.

I know him very, very well - all the way down to his bone marrow. We are astonishingly alike in the way we look out at the world.

Today I went home for lunch and there was a message on my answering machine from his sister, whom it turns out, you know.

She said he had shared the news with the entire family at dinner that night and that he was very happy about it. I sent him an e-mail yesterday thanking him for being such a wonderful human being and sharing some more details of family history. I will wait and let him contact me next.

Over the last few days, old grief and new joy have met in my heart at the same instant, and become a gratitude that takes my breath away. I want to thank his parents, but when I consider what they did, and what you have done, I am silenced by the sacrament of my tears.

There has not been a day for the past 34 years that I have not thought about him. "Love believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." Amen. >>

M

Dear Chris,

WOW!! Thank you so much for providing the information on my birth father. I was not expecting results so quickly, but then again -- Shouldn't be a surprise!

Might I bother you for a little bit of guidance in this situation? My birth mother never told him that she was pregnant or that she had a baby. She said she didn't know if he ever "suspected" anything since she left college for the amount of time she was in the unwed mothers home and then came back to school. My question is how do you approach this kind of situation when you contact the person? I know he is going to be in for the shock of his life, but at the same time, he knows that he had relations with her-- just not a product of the relations. I am truly at a loss as to what to say when I do call him. I know that this is totally different than my birth mom, because she knew, where he doesn't. So, it will disrupt his family life--hopefully not to negatively. Your help is GREATLY appreciated.

Thank you so much for what you have done for me! You are truly amazing and a miracle worker! Someone that you never forget!

With Greatest Thanks,
AC



Well, Gang and in regard to this piece of mail you are either gang, sunflower sister, pafind sister or my friends. I want to share this with everyone and shout it from the roof tops. I not only found my daughter (thanks to Chris at Kinsolving Investigations) With very special thanks to my Caregiver Barb. I made contact on 5/2/2001 by leaving a Message. The real treat was a phone call from J on 5/3/2991. I was not to sure how this was going to be as J started out with "I don't want to talk to you right now" To say the least I was devastated; however, I had to remember why I wanted to find her was to let her know her medical background. I then asked her "I would really like to share some medical background with you if that's okay" J said sure, so I told her and that was all she needed to get her talking. Sounds like me, she likes to talk. She has known that she was adopted since she was seven. Her grandmother had been my caseworker that worked the adoption. She has known my name since she was sixteen, her grandmother kept all the adoption information for her when she turned eighteen. Well, to say the least she and her Mom knew that this day would come. I'm glad they knew because I sure didn't. Before our talk ended she let me know that her Mom has always been very supportive of me, then J said "I would like to meet you and sit down and talk

with you. So our very first face to face is tentatively going to happen Mother's Day Weekend. I will keep you all up to date on our reunion. By the way, J is 28.

JR - PA



Hi ,

I just got off the phone with J. He made it so easy, he is such a nice person. Seems well educated with military background. Mgr. of a small computer co.

I have 2 Gr. children 14, and one who is going to be a priest. I am flabbergasted. one of his 1st questions was , "do you have a computer?"

Wed have e-mail addys and home addys and phone #s. He said we will have to get together sometime.

He said he was never curious, for Mom and dad were great to him., only child. So I will take it from here. I am very satisfied. He's healthy and didn't even know my name. But was thankful I didn't have an abortion. but knows that it wasn't a thing then. Real cute laugh. Wanted to know how I found him.

I could go on & on but in all it went well. He is divorced for 1 yr., married almost 20 yrs.

what do you think?

Hugs

J - PA



Hi Chris,

Writing to wish you a happy Mother's Day and to update you as to the progress on my newly found son.

I think it is moving nicely, but not too swiftly. I think the progress is appropriate at this time. Anyway I am pleased. What do you think?

Your coaching on the phone hit it on the head, I followed it and "Thank You". You and he made it easy for me. Believe I am working with two very nice people. You and my son.

Maybe I didn't wait as long as I should but I couldn't have been anymore ready when I called. Delaying was causing anxiety for me. Just maybe I am a quick study. (have to give myself some credit, too.) lol JT - NY

Thank you for the kind wishes! I just had my reunion with my birthmother last Saturday, 5/5. You found her at the end of Jan., I sent her a letter with a photo which ended up to be the best thing I could have done. She took the letter to her friend whose been acting as the liaison between us. She's been very resistant about this whole thing and said she felt betrayed "by the system." She never thought this would happen. In any event, it's been a long haul to get her to meet me. And it wouldn't have happened if it weren't for her friend. She said very little during our meeting, mentioned nothing about the adoption or anything about her life. We talked about generalities only. There maybe another meeting in the fall. Anyway, it will be a long road but worth the wait.

AM - NY



Hi Chris,

First and foremost I want to thank you again, from the bottom of my heart a million thank you's. Well, now where to begin, my birthfamily have been very welcoming, they are all so happy about my finding them. Thirteen nieces and nephews, all together....so many names to try to remember, mind you I am not complaining.

I have spoken to my siblings countless times since I have seen you, and to my birthmother once. She is ill, has suffered 2 heart attacks, surgery for that, has diabetes, emphysema, and Rheumatoid Arthritis. I am thinking it best to not go to fast with her, and you were 100% correct, she was in Florida closing on a condo, and is now back in the Bronx doing her final packing to move.

She did tell me my birth fathers name, and she has never heard nor seen him since she left him. She did tell me his name and he was in Virginia as you said, but i have not been given any other information, except that my eldest sister, who at the time was about 7 years old, remembers him coming back to see her in Virginia after she made up her mind to go back to NY with her husband, and she had told him not to come there, and she believes they had him arrested. Is there anyway you can help me try to locate him, or to see if he is still living?

Thank you again Chris, you are an angel, and I do wish to extend to you all my thanks for what you have done for me, and for so many others...you are a blessing to us all.

Sincerely,
DM - NY

Hi Chris,

I met my brother last night, and he was as excited as the rest of the family. It was another great experience. J met the new grandchildren, and they all had a wonderful time. I am still riding on a cloud, and can't see an end to the ride! It is unreal how much this has changed things for us. I never dreamed how it would feel, knowing who I am, and I am so happy to know, finally. I have the name of my birthfather, He may be in the area still, we don't know yet. I did a phone search on yahoo, I know he had a son already, at the time of my birth, but not if he ever had any more children, later. He was married though they were separated at the time of my birth. They may have reunited, though unlikely, and I don't know if she knows about me, either. I just want to let the joy of this happy reunion soak in first. I also want to talk to J about her feelings, should I decide to contact . I would like to at least see him I guess, and his other children. Well, enough for now, stay in touch, and thanks again.

BJ - NC



Dear Chris,

It is with the utmost joy and pleasure I write you this letter, for Sunday night at around 8:45 I spoke with my birthmother, J, for the first time in my life, and it was just wonderful. After 35 yrs. it was as if we had known each other forever and had just not spoken, it is joy unspeakable. I never knew how much it would mean to speak to her and hear her voice and then see her face to face. We can't get enough of each other it seems. We met on Tuesday night at her house, and her husband, J, and she, both welcomed us with open arms. On Wednesday I met my sister, M, and she was just as sweet and beautiful as I expected and then some, she made it so easy for me, and I could not have been more thrilled than the moment we saw each other and all that followed with us all being together for the afternoon. I can't wait to meet my brother ,L. Well, as you can see I am excited and have to go now, I have another date with my birthmother today, and as before, I can't wait! Thank you Chris, and Kinsolving, for the work you did to make my life complete! I have to go now and wipe these tears of joy from my face. I Love You All! Thank You!

BJ - NC

I did go back east to meet my birthmother and found it to be a very peaceful trip. We met for dinner one evening and spent 5 hours getting to know each other. I have had contact since I've been home and know that we will keep in touch.

I did recommend you to several different people one of which you are working with now .

Thanks again for your help.

MW/NY



Thanks for the well wishes. I called my birth mother on May 4. I said exactly what you told me and there was dead silence! She was polite, answered most of my questions. Someone else answered the phone so I know she wasn't alone in the house. She told me she had never told anyone in her family about me, except her mother who has now passed away. Even my 40 year old brother and 38 year old sister know nothing about me. She refused to tell me the name of my father. She did tell me that both my maternal and paternal grandmothers died from breast cancer, so that was a good thing to know in regards to medical information. She was glad to know I was okay, said she thought about me often, however she didn't say to call again or that she wanted to meet me. I think I'll send her a little note with a picture of my daughter and I and tell her if she ever wants to get in touch with me, here are several ways to do that. She only lives 136 miles away from me which just seems unreal!

At any rate, thanks for your help. You really helped me achieve one of my goals – to speak with my birth mother. Hopefully, she'll eventually soften up and tell her family about me and perhaps one day we will all meet. Thanks again for your assistance!

PM - Ga



Hello Chris,
just wanted to let you all know that Mother's Day 2001 was the best!!!! Thanks to you all I have finally been able to be a part of my family :) There are so many people in the world who do not have a mother and I am blessed to say I have two.

I will email you later with more of our reunion story. Take care .

Cordially yours,

MT/OH



Dear Chris,

Thanks for the follow-up and good wishes.

Things are going very well here as I have now met both my birth parents. They have both been extremely receptive and wonderful. I have met half of my new siblings and am to meet the other two soon. There are still many cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents to meet!!! I'm sure that now that we have found each other we will remain in each others lives.

My experience has been wonderful and life changing , but I must say that this is the most difficult and painful experience in my life thus far.

When I began this process, I sat my husband down and told him that I had no idea what kind of things would come up if I did this. AN UNDERSTATEMENT! Some days the sense of loss is so overwhelming. It's a mixed bag of blessings right now: joy at having found them and for how they have welcomed me and sadness at the whole situation. I'm sure this will change as the healing process has a chance to work its magic. Until then, it's one day at a time riding them emotional roller coaster.

I will send photos and keep you posted.

Any words of wisdom would be greatly appreciated.

All the Best,

SM -NY

Dear KI,

I cannot thank you both enough from the bottom of my heart for locating my birthmother. I myself have spent many hours reading adoption books and searching the Internet. I have been actively searching for my birthmother for over eight years and all I ever did was run into dead ends. I don't know how you both did it and I don't care all I do care about was that you located my birthmother and you located her in only four days. When I received the information from you, I couldn't believe it. I was holding on to my heritage and my real identity for the first time in 32 years I really know who I am and where I come from. You have completed my life. When I first made that call, I was scared to death that she might not accept me. But she did and I found out she has been living in Florida since 1973. I only live an hour and a half drive away. The next night my wife and my two sons drove out to meet her for the first time in 32 years. When I saw her we ran into each others arms, she wouldn't stop holding me tight. She told me that she never got to hold me in the hospital and now she was making up for it. Since our first meeting I have gone to see mother again and we talk almost everyday on the phone. I have also found out that I have a half brother who also was very excited to meet me.

Thanks again Kinsolving you have made my life complete.

Sincerely,
PC - Fla/NY



Chris,

I have been in touch with my daughter on a weekly basis since you found her for me. Thank you again for your help. She is healthy and beautiful (has sent me some pictures of herself and her children). Anyway, I wish I could say that I have already seen her in person, but I do hope that someday she will suggest that it's time. I now have names and faces that I can put with my prayers. Hope your mother's day was good too - M actually wished me a happy mother's day for the first time ever! I'll try to update you from time to time.

Sincerely,
BC -NC

Kinsolving,

I wanted to update you on what has happened since I found out my information: I have talked with 3 of my brothers and sister and I have also talked with my birthmother. It has been quite a weekend!

They were all so excited to hear from me and most of them cried (along with me) and told me they still loved me. Evidently, I lived at home approx 1 year and then was taken away because her husband told her that he would leave if she kept me!

I plan on meeting them this week... I simply can't believe this is actually happening, it all still seems like a dream. I want to thank you so much for solving this mystery. They had been searching for me also, and had a webpage posted somewhere with my info. I haven't yet decided to tell my "mom and dad" that this is happening I am afraid it will hurt their feelings. But that's another story!

Their IS a relationship with the L name... L was married to my dad's cousin (who is also adopted) before she was married to my brother! (Is that wild or not?)

Take care and thank you again!

Sincerely,
HA - NC



Chris

I want to thank you for finding my daughter. I did meet with her and her family. I have talked to her a couple of times since then, but right now she doesn't want to have anything to do with me. She said maybe later on so I hope maybe later she will have a change of heart. I hope so anyway. I have waited along time for this, so I'm not going to give up on her. She has had a good life. I am thankful for that. It was good to hear from you. I hope you have a nice Mother's Day. Well you take care.

BP -NC

Dear Chris,

Thank you for the e-mail. Attached please find a picture of my birthmom and me which was made when we met in March for the first time. I flew from Oklahoma to SC to meet with her at her home. We had initially spoken on the phone in January and then pretty much every week from then on. We exchanged pictures and letters and were really excited to be meeting for the first time in 49 years.

As I think you can tell, it was a happy reunion for both of us. I am one of 8 children, 6 of which are living. And, I am not the oldest child, I have an older half sister 3 years my senior. The siblings have decided that at this time they do not care to make contact with me and I am respecting their wishes. I have seen pictures of them all and I don't look anything like them as of course we have different fathers. I look more like my birthmother than any of her children. I think this picture that is attached says it all.

I was taken from my birthmother when I was 2 days old and she never saw me again. She, like me, had prayed for the day that this reunion would take place.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for opening the door to my future by opening the door to my past. I now not only know "who I am" but all is well within my spirit.

I don't know if you have heard from my nephew, C T, but you also succeeded in finding his birthmother. I am happy to report that they also had a reunion in April. He flew from California to NY to meet with her and I know he is glad he did. I hope he will share his reunion stories with you as well.

Sincerely,

KS - NC



Hi Chris!

DB here, what an experience! My mother died long ago, but the family has eaten me alive! It's been so great I'm moving to be with them. We're going to make a video tape and send some pictures. Thank you so much for all you've done.

Take care!
DB - NC

Hi Chris!!

My reunion with my birth mother has been a wonderful, yet very confusing experience. She was THRILLED that I found her and couldn't wait to meet me. We spent around six hours on the phone over a three day period and then met in person a week later. I was extremely lucky that we not only live in the same state, but less than a one-hour drive from each other.

Anyway, we met at a restaurant and had a long dinner. I wasn't particularly nervous about meeting her because I think I was in shock. It was weird but I didn't feel any emotions during the meal. I almost felt dead inside. No tears, no overwhelming joy...nothing. Empty. At the end of the three-hour dinner I couldn't wait to get in my car and go home. It's not that I didn't like her, but it was such a huge moment in my life that in retrospect I needed to get away and be alone. When I got home I called my therapist who I have been seeing for many years and burst into tears. I just sobbed and sobbed but I wasn't really sure why. He said it was probably because it was one of the most emotional experiences of my life and once it ended all of the feeling came to the surface. In a way it was a big let-down.

P is a very nice woman and is very interested in staying in touch. After our first meeting I didn't want to speak to her for a while but returned her phone calls as a courtesy because I didn't want her to feel rejected. Fortunately, she went out of town for two weeks right after our reunion so that gave me some time to sit with everything and let it sink in. I went from wanting to never speak to her again, to wanting to call her. But as time has gone by I have begun to feel like I don't necessarily want to have a very close relationship with her. I mean she's NOT my mother. She is the woman who gave birth to me but my adoptive parents are my PARENTS. P is just a blood relative. I don't want her to be a mother figure in my life, nor do I think she wants to be.

I eventually met her son and my birth uncle. I really liked her son but didn't care for her brother at all. I guess the bottom line is that I'm thrilled to have found her, I'm really glad to know "where I came from" and why she gave me up, I'm grateful to have my medical history, and last but not least, I'm happy that she was open to meeting me and getting to know me. I think over time our relationship will slow down to perhaps a few phone calls and visits a year. I don't think I'd want anything more than that. It's weird but she's just another person who

happened to give birth to me. She not my mom. No one can ever replace my mom who is one of the best people I know. I was blessed to be adopted by such wonderful people.

I can't thank you enough for finding P. As for my birth father, I will not be contacting him because P told me that she got in touch with his brother and that he doesn't even keep in touch with the four children he has with his three ex-wives. Maybe one day I'll call but I don't think he'll care about hearing from me and that's OK. Eventually, I would like to get his medical history.

Please feel free to publish parts of this letter on your web site.
Again, THANK YOU!!!

NH - NY