

Linda Benton

Client Advocate

My husband Tom and I were married August 17, 1968. We were Sophomores at Eastern Kentucky State University and anxious to start our lives together. After graduating college, Tom was transferred to Oxford, Ohio as a manufacturing engineer for a manufacturing company. I was working for an interior designer as a bookkeeper. I found out quickly that I did not like the bookkeeping, but fell in love with the design work.

We tried to have children, but God had other plans. We tried all the things that were available at that time, but with no luck. After having two miscarriages, one very traumatic, I decided I could not do that again. So, we decided to apply for adoption. We did all the preliminary forms and interviews, and were told it would be one and a half to two years before a child would be available. Again, God had other plans. We brought our son home twenty days after we turned in our papers. We were told that yes, there were people who had been on the waiting list for two years, but the focus of the agency was to do what is best for each child. All the social workers we dealt with had gotten together and prayed. They felt that this was the best for him. Eighteen months after adopting our son Sherman, Tom was transferred to Columbia, South Carolina. I went back to college at the University of South Carolina and acquired my interior design degree. Shortly after I graduated, I started my own design business with a drapery workroom where we fabricate window treatments and bedding for me and several other designers. Tom retired in 2008 and came to work with us helping with the office work. Sherman is 48 years old now, and a wonderful man of God. He and his wife are now taking over the business that Tom and I worked so hard to build.



I am at Daybreak now because after losing Tom, I needed to be useful. I felt God calling me to help women who find themselves in the difficult and scary circumstance of being pregnant and all alone. I want them to know that, if they cannot take care of their baby, it would be such a wonderful gift to someone who cannot have a child. I will always love the teenage girl who chose to let me raise her baby. I do not know her name, but she will always have a place in my heart.

Sherman is not my only experience with adoption. I have an adopted sister, an adopted grandson and an adopted cousin, all through different circumstances. God has truly blessed me with so much family I would not have if not for adoption.

Daybreak Client Advocate Application: <https://daybreakcola.org/volunteer/volunteer-application/>