

## Donor 1585 Pen Sketch

Family is very important to me, I have a very emotional identification with my home and family.

I feel privileged for having the opportunity of helping others to create a family of any shape or size.

Becoming a donor has been a great honour, I am very pleased for making a positive contribution and giving others the gift of life.

I would describe myself as very practical and rational with a great deal of sensitivity and emotional depth. I am quietly devoted to the people I care for most.

I have a strong will and I am very clear about my ideas and objectives as well as my likes and dislikes.

My friends would say that joy, sympathy and a great optimism characterise my temperament. I maintain a positive disposition and strongly believe that a sunny outlook would attract good things and energy.

I am definitely not a person who lives lightly or superficially. I like to live passionately and intensely and I am not afraid of changes, challenge or of facing the darker side of life. I function well in crisis situations and enjoy the feeling of evolving and learning from every experience.

I had a very happy childhood and grew up in a large family, I have three brothers and one sister.

My parents worked very hard to raise a family of 5 children and I am extremely proud of them. They are my heroes.

My mother is very emotional, affectionate and loving. She is extremely generous and sacrificed herself a lot for her home, very often putting her own ambitions and dreams aside.

My father is very sociable and warm hearted with a great sense of fair play. He has a sharp mind and is very entrepreneurial and hardworking.

I learn from my parents that anything can be achieved by being persistent and working hard.

I love meeting new people and making new friends, though I am very selective with friends but once I trust people, I am very spontaneous and communicative. An evening of relaxed conversation with friends makes me feel most at home.

My personal freedom has always been very important to me, I resist any ties that bind or restrict me. Since primary school, I always wanted to travel the world and live abroad. I worked hard and persistently to follow my dreams. I started working and saving money for my future when I was 18, my first job was in a pharmacy, a year after that, I took a full time internship [REDACTED]. During 5 years, I studied at the university and worked at the same time.

I had the opportunity of living in different countries and consider myself very lucky for that. I am also very proud of calling [REDACTED] home.

I am a Certified Public Accountant with an MSc in Accounting & Finance. I am very disciplined and practical when it comes to work and put a lot of energy into my professional development.

I studied Accounting because I like numbers and I enjoy working with people.

I work in Banking and really enjoy what I do, it is continuously challenging. The adrenalin and the buzz of working with clients and the constant change - for the better or worse - makes it a highly stimulating career.

Everyday is different and I like that. Helping clients to solve their problems and achieve their goals is a pretty rewarding way to spend my time.

I love the outdoors, I grew up in a beautiful city surrounded by mountains, not far from the sea, I enjoy climbing, hiking, kayaking, swimming, snorkelling and scuba diving. I am at my happiest and my best when I am surrounded by nature and the sea.

I have an intense desire for knowledge and always look for activities which could expand my emotional world. I absolutely love travelling and learning about other countries, their culture, people, history and food.

I also like languages and can speak: Portuguese, Spanish, Italian and English.

Travelling is one of my passions, I would never get tired of travelling. I really enjoy visiting the Far East especially Japan and Thailand, I also love Portugal, Italy and Greece and try to visit every year.

Food is very important to me, I like good food and also enjoy cooking, Mediterranean and Asian cuisines are my favourites.

I have great imagination and sensitivity; I am a romantic at heart and love music, all types of music but particularly stringed instruments and Fado. I also enjoy going to the theatre and cinema every time I have the chance.

I really hope this document provides you with a good picture of who I am.

It is hard to write a document describing my life and the way I am but it is even harder to find the appropriate words to describe the decision you are about to take in order to create your own family.

I don't know you and most probably we would never get to meet but I wish you all the happiness and success in this new journey.

I would like to end this document with a poem called "The invitation":

***The Invitation***

*By Oriah Mountain Dreamer*

***It doesn't interest me  
what you do for a living.***

***I want to know  
what you ache for***

*and if you dare to dream  
of meeting your heart's longing.*

*It doesn't interest me  
how old you are.  
I want to know  
if you will risk  
looking like a fool  
for love  
for your dream  
for the adventure of being alive.*

*It doesn't interest me  
what planets are  
squaring your moon...  
I want to know  
if you have touched  
the centre of your own sorrow  
if you have been opened  
by life's betrayals  
or have become shrivelled and closed  
from fear of further pain.*

*I want to know  
if you can sit with pain  
mine or your own  
without moving to hide it  
or fade it  
or fix it.*

*I want to know  
if you can be with joy  
mine or your own  
if you can dance with wildness  
and let the ecstasy fill you  
to the tips of your fingers and toes  
without cautioning us  
to be careful  
to be realistic  
to remember the limitations  
of being human.*

*It doesn't interest me  
if the story you are telling me  
is true.  
I want to know if you can*

*disappoint another  
to be true to yourself.  
If you can bear  
the accusation of betrayal  
and not betray your own soul.  
If you can be faithless  
and therefore trustworthy.*

*I want to know if you can see Beauty  
even when it is not pretty  
every day.  
And if you can source your own life  
from its presence.*

*I want to know  
if you can live with failure  
yours and mine  
and still stand at the edge of the lake  
and shout to the silver of the full moon,  
"Yes."*

*It doesn't interest me  
to know where you live  
or how much money you have.  
I want to know if you can get up  
after the night of grief and despair  
weary and bruised to the bone  
and do what needs to be done  
to feed the children.*

*It doesn't interest me  
who you know  
or how you came to be here.  
I want to know if you will stand  
in the centre of the fire  
with me  
and not shrink back.*

*It doesn't interest me  
where or what or with whom  
you have studied.  
I want to know  
what sustains you  
from the inside  
when all else falls away.*

*I want to know  
if you can be alone  
with yourself  
and if you truly like  
the company you keep  
in the empty moments*