

A letter to...

My team mate



You've always been so caring!

Dear Colin,

Over the years, we've been through so much together, haven't we?

Good times and bad, you've always been right beside me.

Kind, caring. Right from the very start when we met in 2005.

When we married in 2007, promised to love each other 'in sickness and in health'.

Over the years I shared my dream with you.

To foster kids and help them flourish.

But with my busy retail career and then a son, Jack, in 2008, we had our hands full.

Then in December 2015, I got home from work, found you collapsed on the floor. I asked you.

'Let's go for it,' you said. With Jack on board too, I discovered TACT a fostering charity with bases across the country.

'My husband is disabled, does that rule us out?' I asked. 'Not necessarily,' I was told.

We'd have to pass a rigorous application process, but we'd be treated like everyone else. Eight months after filling in the first forms, we finally

got the amazing news. 'We're going to be foster parents,' I told you, and we grinned. It took a little while to have a child placed with us, as TACT wanted to make sure we were a good fit for each other.

In July 2020, we met our now 15-year-old foster daughter, Millie. She was so anxious that first day as we all sat in the garden, especially nervous around men.

But you won her round, soon she was groaning at your jokes along with us! Meanwhile, we bonded while I did her hair, went on long walks with our deerhound-collie cross, Robbie.



Our happy family - ready to grow

voluntary redundancy. And spending more time at home, caring for you, gave me an idea.

'Is now the time to start fostering, at last?' I asked you.

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In January 2021, after

a challenging few days, I turned to you for comfort. 'I don't know if I'm cut out for this,' I sighed, teary-eyed. 'We can do it. She needs us,' you reassured me.

With time, Millie started to see our house as her home.

Jack and her get on like brother and sister, and she's growing into a wonderful, kind young woman.

Now, we're on the path to take on more foster kids, this time siblings.

I've always been so proud of our family.

Thank you for helping me share the love we've built with kids who need it most.

We've turned a difficult time into something beautiful.

All my love,
Nicola x

Nicola, 53, Dorset

● To find out more about fostering with TACT, visit tactcare.org.uk

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