

Fair Oaks

LIVING



PLAYING WITH PASSION:

The Adams Family

December 2025

POWERED BY



BEST VERSION MEDIA

Photography by Isabel Ollinger Photography



PLAYING WITH PASSION:

The Adams Family

By Laura I. Winn

Photography by Isabel Ollinger and photo courtesy of the Adams family

You might say they're a little kooky. Treasures in their pop culture trove can be creepy. And their house is a bit like a well-lived-in museum. But they're not the Addams family of black-and-white TV. They are Kris and Melissa Adams, a busy local business couple by day, and popular video game streamers by night. Together, they are raising sons, Leland, 12, and Crosby, 10, in a neon wonderland of arcade games, Disney memorabilia, Lego sets, and the occasional horror movie clown prop leering in the corner.

"Our home is not your stereotypical family home," explains Melissa. "It would be as if teenagers had adult money."

"We generally feel growing up is a scam and love to bring fun to our kids' lives and our home," adds Kris.

Kris and Melissa deliver on that fun-focused family time through adventures to comic conventions, road trips to national parks with ghost tours along the way, and visits to the "Happiest Place on Earth" three to four times a year. Standard weekend activities include mornings of sports games for the boys, followed by afternoons playing classic Nintendo games.

And sometimes, the family streams these activities on Kris' gaming and pop culture channels, under the moniker of Tofer.A. By sharing his life and love of every-

thing behind the video game – its history, art, creation, and the way it brings people together – Kris has amassed a community of over 1 million subscribers across social media channels.

For Kris, video games are more than entertainment. They are something special you share with friends and family, and they can be a form of therapy. Kris streams about this passion from a room filled with over a dozen arcade games. Among the lights and sounds of Asteroids, X-Men and Mortal Kombat sits one especially cherished machine.

"That Ms. Pac-Man is the very first machine I ever touched," explains Kris. "My maternal grandparents had it in their

house my whole childhood in the 80s. I remember watching my grandfather stand at the machine and play while eating a bowl of rocky road ice cream."

He also recalls how his grandparents would play the original Super Mario Bros. together in their bedroom. "These are my earliest memories of video games," he says. "I owe Ms. Pac-Man my love for games."

Sharing those memories of the past and promoting the video games of the present have provided the Adams family with invitations to travel to conventions and opportunities to meet the voices behind the animated characters their kids love.

"My kids got to open up



Pokémon cards with the voice of Ash from the show," explains Kris. "When my kids open Pokémon, I want to be right there with them. I want to be a part of creating those core memories in the same way that my grandfather was with me."

And while life is a lot of fun and games for Kris and Melissa, who stream themselves playing video games multiple times a week, they also work hard at their respective day jobs in the local community.

Kris runs Sacramento for Tractors, Inc., a third-generation Kubota tractor sales company founded by his paternal grandfather in 1969. As members of the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce, the company plays a pivotal role in bringing the magic of Christmas to life. In years past, they have pulled Santa's sleigh through the Fair Oaks parade route with one of the company's Rough Terrain Vehicles (RTV). Each year, they also store the sleigh when Santa's not busy using it for events like the town's annual tree lighting.

"We love being a part of something so memorable in the community!" says Melissa. Melissa, a hairstylist at Rustique Salon, has worked around the Fair Oaks Village area for the last 10 years of her 20-year career. "Being in Fair Oaks for so long, you grow such a passion for working here and seeing it thrive," says Melissa. "I love the hairstyling community in the Village. The lack of competition and the full support of one another make the area so special to work in."

The hours that Kris and Melissa devote to their careers and their channels reward them with the opportunity to champion their family's hobbies and interests wholeheartedly. As the singer and guitarist for the band, Life in 24 Frames, music is another one of Kris' passions. "I've been playing music for my boys since they were in Melissa's stomach," says Kris. "I'm not going to force music on them, but I do it in hopes that they want to do it organically over the years."

To that end, Crosby is a self-taught drummer, and like his



uncle, Dallas Cowboys' offensive coordinator, Klayton Adams, he loves playing flag football. Towering over 6 feet tall, Leland is a skilled basketball player.

"Our kids are really well-rounded," says Melissa. "We're going to be cheering on the sidelines, even if we can't relate."

"Whatever my kids decide they want to do, I could be passionate

about it," adds Kris. It's that love and support of family that motivate the proud parents to keep streaming. "Doing the video channels is a lot of work, but it's also so rewarding and special," explains Kris. "My kids are getting to experience things I would have died for as a kid. It's 100 percent the drive for me." ■