

# Steven J. Sless

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BY BC STAFF

## FAMILY FAVORITES

**MEAL:** Pretty easy one here. We love going out for pizza.

**DESSERT:** Anything chocolate.

### BOOK TO READ TOGETHER:

Currently the kids are loving fairy tales.

### WAY TO SPEND A WEEKEND

#### WITH YOUR CHILDREN:

During warmer weather, we love to be outdoors, whether it's a trip to the zoo or a hike on the NCR Trail.

**VACATION SPOT:** Last year we rented a house in Sarasota, Florida. The kids had a blast and the beaches there are amazing. So far that's been our favorite place.

Do you know a local mom or dad in our readership area whom we should feature in Parent You Should Know? Nominate her or him by filling out an entry form on [Baltimoreschild.com/Feedback](https://Baltimoreschild.com/Feedback).

Baltimore's CHILD



### What's the hardest part about juggling both parenthood and your career?

The hardest part for me is the work-life balance, particularly over the past 10 months, working from home. Separating work time from family time while trying to run and scale a business has proven difficult at times.

### What makes trying to balance both easier?

For sure, it's the support of my wife, Leonida. It's amazing how she does all she does while managing a career of her own and studying for her master's degree. She also is very good at reminding me when it's time to shut down the computer and spend time with the family.

### What do you love the most about being a parent?

I love making memories, particularly memories that take me back to my childhood. Experiencing some of the things that brought me joy as a kid is something I can appreciate so much more now that I have kids.

### What's your biggest parenting fail?

I think as parents sometimes we can be hard on ourselves and feel like we are failing. It can be the guilt that comes with working so much or spending too much time in thought about other things when the focus should be on them. Becoming a better parent is always something I work on and I'm always striving to improve.

### How has your family been handling the pandemic?

Like most families, adapting over the past year has been difficult at times, but I feel we have handled it well. We've spent a lot more time playing in our backyard and going to parks or trails. During normal times, I would travel for work often. We've appreciated the extra time together and that we can all sit around the dinner table together every night.

### What's the one thing you hope your children learn from you and your career?

Work ethic, passion, empathy and pure determination can make for a rewarding career development. ■