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***A WEALTH OF FAMILY: An Adopted Son's  
International Quest for Heritage, Reunion and Enrichment***

**By Thomas Brooks, \$17.95 original trade paperback,  
256 pages (photographs), ISBN 0-9774629-3-5, LCCN 2006900057**

## **Adoptee's Compelling True Story Shows How to Cross Cultural Barriers**

***Heritage and Reunion Narrative Provides Powerful Insights on  
Overcoming Racism and Poverty***

HOUSTON, TEXAS (August 1, 2006) — When Thomas Brooks set out to find his biological parents, he had no idea the journey would take him around the world, from the United States all the way to Great Britain and Kenya. He had no idea that his odyssey would profoundly change his life and the lives of three very culturally different families.

In his inspiring book, *A Wealth of Family: An Adopted Son's International Quest for Heritage, Reunion and Enrichment*, Brooks writes about his life growing up as an African-American boy on the north side of Pittsburgh. Although money was often tight, his struggling single mother provided her only child with a loving home and devoted extended family. Even the shocking revelation by his mother when Brooks was just eleven that he was adopted did not prevent the young boy from following his ambitions to go to college and leave the ghetto behind.

Eventually, however, Brooks sensed within himself a growing need to know more about his biological background. Because he knew nothing about his biological parents or their heritage, he began to feel that something was missing from his own identity. In 1992, at the age of twenty-five and in his final year of the University of Maryland MBA program, he set out to fill in the missing gaps of his heritage. It was not long before he discovered his birth parents were alive and leading remarkable lives overseas.

"I was taken aback to receive any information at all," says Brooks after getting a letter from the agency that handled his adoption in 1966. "It was incredibly fulfilling to add pieces to the puzzle of my own identity. I learned that my biological mother was a white American who had descended from Lithuanian Jews. She gave birth to me at the age of nineteen. My biological father was a black Kenyan foreign student and about twenty-six years old at the time of my birth. I was multiracial. Both of my parents had attended college." Brooks admits that this was much more information than he had ever expected to receive and that it gave him a good feeling about the contribution of both of his parents to his heritage.

Brooks eventually found his white biological mother living in London, with his previously unknown British siblings. He then located his biological father and extended family in Nairobi. His international quest to locate his biological parents and the resulting reunions have profoundly affected three radically different families in the United States, Great Britain, and Kenya.

In summary, this true story of adoption, reunion and heritage provides a timely and inspiring perspective on multicultural families, and provocative prescriptions to address racism and poverty.

The book *A Wealth of Family* is the subject of numerous prominent endorsements, including:

*"This story is very highly recommended as the inspiring autobiography of one man and his determination to discover his own biological roots."*

— **Midwest Book Review**

*"The author's international journey across cultures, races and continents will uplift and edify any reader, regardless of background."*

— **Honorable Andrew Young, Former United States Ambassador to the United Nations and Former Mayor of Atlanta**

*A Wealth of Family* can be purchased in bookstores or online at Amazon.com. The media, book reviewers and book clubs can email review copy requests to [Media@AlphaMultimedia.com](mailto:Media@AlphaMultimedia.com).

## **About the Author**

Thomas Brooks has published several articles and spoken frequently on the radio and on TV. In 1998, Brooks won a Career Communications Group national award in the *Technical Sales and Marketing* category. Brooks was formerly a Director of Marketing at Lucent Technologies. Since 2002 the entrepreneur has served as the Managing Director of Alpha Multimedia, Inc., a marketing, public relations and publishing firm. His bestselling book, *A Wealth of Family: An Adopted Son's International Quest for Heritage, Reunion, and Enrichment*, was named a "Best Books" Award Winner by *USA Book News*. Brooks lives with his family near Houston, Texas.

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