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**CONTACT: Nikki Walton
+1 (281) 217-1960**

**Media@AlphaMultimedia.com
www.AlphaMultimedia.com/PressRoom.htm**

***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**

Award-Winning Multicultural Adoption-Reunion Story Soars to Top of Amazon Best Seller Lists

**Successful African-American Entrepreneur Offers a Unique Perspective on
Multicultural Families and Guidance on How to Triumph over Racism and Poverty**

HOUSTON, TEXAS (October 23, 2006) — Thomas Brooks grew up in inner-city Pittsburgh, and was raised by a single mother that struggled to provide for her child. At age eleven, he was surprised when he was told that he was adopted. The effect the shocking news had on him was quickly overcome, because even as a young man Brooks had a unique perspective on family. What his mother lacked in money, she compensated for with love, and that made all the difference. Years later, he became determined to find his birth parents, and learn about his mixed-race roots.

A Wealth of Family: An Adopted Son's International Quest for Heritage, Reunion, and Enrichment (ISBN 0977462935) recently reached Amazon #1 Bestseller status for Adoption titles, and also Amazon #1 Bestseller status for the African-American Studies category.

USABookNews.com, the premiere online magazine and review website for mainstream and independent publishing houses, just announced the winners of its "Best Books 2006" Book Awards from over 1200 entries. *A Wealth of Family* was declared the winner in the African-American Studies category.

The book tells the inspiring story of how Brooks reunited with his biological extended families on a journey that would take him out of the United States, to Europe and then to the heart of Africa. This reunion would profoundly change his life and the lives of all three extended families.

As he completed his MBA at the University of Maryland in 1992, Brooks set out to locate his birth parents. With a successful combination of determination and good fortune, Brooks found his biological families. He reunited with his birth mother in England and found that she was a descendent of Lithuanian Jews. Brooks later located his Kenyan biological father and extended family in Nairobi. These reunions endowed Brooks with tremendous pride in the heritage of his three families, and he continues to celebrate the diversity of their lives.

A Wealth of Family is a stunning autobiography of one man's gritty journey to overcome the confining effects of racism and poverty, and find his true identity. As he discovers his biological roots, Brooks demonstrates, through determination and ambition, what it really takes to succeed. This inspiring reunion story shows how to build bridges across continents, races and cultures, and offers a profound understanding of the familiar adage, "No barrier is too large, or too difficult."

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 that focuses on high technology, emerging business, and publishing industry clients. 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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