

## Parents are killed in Hwy. 48 crash seven-week-old baby lone survivor

STOUFFVILLE — Seven week old Kevin Underwood, "the pride and joy" of Norman and Jean Underwood, Stouffville, remains in hospital, "holding his own", following a tragic two-car crash Friday, that killed both his parents.

Mr. Underwood died in the tangled wreckage of the family's compact car, after it collided with a second vehicle on Hwy. 48, south of Ballantrae. His wife passed away the following day. He was 28. She was 24.

According to police, the Underwood auto was northbound, pulling a snowmobile and trailer. It collided almost head-on with a southbound vehicle that had earlier skidded out of control and was stranded crossways on the pavement. The force of the collision hurled the snowmobile over 30 feet into a nearby ditch.

John Derkson of Scarboro, driver of the second car, suffered minor injuries.

Mr. and Mrs. Underwood, married seven years, moved to Main Street East, Stouffville, in October, 1971. Son Kevin was born just last November. "They were so proud of him," commented a close family relative, "he was their main interest."

Norman Underwood loved the sport of snowmobiling, and was taking a machine to the residence of his sister at Musselman's Lake, when the crash occurred. When the family failed to arrive, they set out to see what might have happened. They immediately recognized the car as belonging to her brother. Others in the family include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Underwood, Gladiol Road, Markham; four sisters, Shirley (Mrs. David Joudrey), Unionville; Darleen (Mrs. Clarence Joudrey), Mitchell Drive, Musselman's Lake; Dorothy (Mrs. Arthur Van Meurs), of Scarboro; Yvonne, and one brother, Stephen, both at home.

Jean Underwood leaves her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Almond, Church St., Markham; five brothers, Robert in Texas; Ralph of Scarboro; Russell, James and Tommy, Markham, and one sister, Nancy (Mrs. Larry Casimiri), also of Markham.



A near head-on crash, Friday night, on Hwy. 48, south of Ballantrae, took the lives of a young Stouffville couple and seriously injured their 7 week old child. The family car, shown here, was demolished by the impact. It was snowing heavily at the time. — Jim Thomas.



G. RATCLIFF

Gordon Ratcliff, a former Ward 4 councillor, took the oath of office as Mayor of Whitchurch-Stouffville (1973-74), at the inaugural meeting, Jan. 4. He succeeds Ken Laushway whose political career spanned a period of 17 years. — Jim Thomas.

## Host 'full house'

STOUFFVILLE — A full house greeted Whitchurch-Stouffville's 1973-74 Council Jan. 4.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff, and Councillors Art Starr, Jim Wong, Merlyn Baker, Cathy Joice, June Button and Eldred King, accepted the oath of office as administered by Clerk Ralph Corner. Ex-mayor Ken Laushway viewed the proceedings from the gallery. But his efforts through the years did not go unanswered. Praise was voiced by Mayor Ratcliff and councillors June Button and Merlyn Baker. "There has been no harder working representative in the Region," said Mr. Ratcliff, "I deem it an honor to have served with you."

The Mayor, in his inaugural address, outlined many of the accomplishments of 1971-72. He also set forth a list of priority programs for 1973, with a Traffic and Parking Study for Stouffville, established as No. 1. He called for additional estate development in rural Whitchurch and hamlet expansion in keeping with the Official Plan.

Councillor Baker noted that while the municipality is divided into wards, he was confident all

members would look beyond these boundaries and consider the Town as a whole. This policy was echoed by councillor King. He said too, that he hoped additional residential, commercial and industrial development could be encouraged to locate in the Town, to create additional tax revenue without increasing the mill rate.

Councillor June Button welcomed the new members and expressed satisfaction that so many from within Ward 5 were in the audience. "If problems arise, I'm as close as the telephone," she said.

Cathy Joice, while admitting to the fact she was, in reality, succeeding the Mayor, in Ward 4, she liked to look on the area as "my Ward". "I will strive to do a good job," she said.

Jim Wong said he was looking forward to the two years ahead and would endeavor to contribute to the betterment of the Town. Councillor Art Starr said he had watched and compared Whitchurch-Stouffville with other governing bodies in York. "I have been impressed with the way this Council has operated," he said, "and I'm confident this tradition will continue."

## Former Mayor honored by Lions

STOUFFVILLE — Retiring Mayor Ken Laushway was honored Monday evening by members of the Lions Club led by Lions Pres. Cliff Aiken. Mr. Laushway is a long-standing member of the Lions Club and has an outstanding record of seventeen years' perfect attendance.

Participating in the program were former members of Mr. Laushway's councils. He has spent seventeen years in municipal life. Earliest council member introduced was Mr. Elgin Wagg, 1956. Telegrams were read from former councillors Gar Lehman and Norman (Bud) Spang. Those included in the head table introduction were, Elgin Wagg, Ken Wagg, Tom Farr, Wm. Parsons, Henry Slack, Win Timbers, Bob Lewis, Tom Lonergan, Ethel Harper, Ian Chapman, Betty VanNostrand, Merlyn Baker, June Button and Gordon Ratcliff, also Ralph Corner.

A series of pictures were taken and these along with other material are to be prepared in book form and presented as a gift to the former Mayor. Flowers were presented to Mrs. Laushway and Mr. Laushway replied to the various tributes paid to him.

Three special songs had been prepared by Lion Lorne Bowdway for the Mayor and these were sung as part of the program.

## 9-year-old killed

GORMLEY — A nine year old Gormley area girl was killed, Saturday, when her grandfather's car was in collision with a second vehicle, on Don Mills Road.

Barbara Ann Wood, a passenger in an auto driven by Norman Percival Wood, 65, of RR 1, Gormley, was pronounced dead on arrival at York County Hospital.

## Golf club to rebuild Architects study plans

STOUFFVILLE — The clubhouse at Sleepy Hollow, destroyed by fire Dec. 16, will be re-built, likely this spring, according to the latest word from executive president, Nicholas A. Onody.

Mr. Onody, in a letter to the members, said he had been in touch with Bert Turcotte, a co-owner, and was assured that a new building, even more attractive than the original, would be erected at the site.

The structure, erected and furnished at a wholesale cost of \$175,000, was insured for \$150,000. A replacement clubhouse will far exceed this figure, Mr. Turcotte said.

Architects are already working on plans, and these should be ready by early in February. When more information is available, a general meeting will be called, said the president.

"In the meantime, one thing is sure," concluded Mr. Onody, "Sleepy Hollow will rise from the ashes, and with members' support and patience, we will soon be back together again."

## Expanding Cable Tech finds difficulty obtaining staff Plant size doubled

STOUFFVILLE — Cable Tech, the unobtrusive factory at the west end of Stouffville, which started its staff recruiting from scratch when it opened back in 1969, now has 50 employees — and needs more.

Siegfried Riemer, president, indicated the company had staff vacancies throughout last year and that nine positions were still available.

Despite offering a profit sharing program to employees and wages comparable to those in the city, Cable Tech has had difficulty attracting local labor. Mr. Riemer commented that this is not a unique situation for industry located in a rural area and speculated on the number of people who commute to jobs in Toronto. "Maybe the public think anything that's local is low paying. Even when we advertise there are few applicants, yet no one needs previous knowledge of the job; just be industrially oriented."

At the moment only one lady works for the company, on the office staff. But this could change, with the next expansion program establishing additional facilities for female employees.

Mr. Riemer contends that "to be competitive one must expand" and Cable Tech has already doubled its initial floor space from 30 to 60 thousand square feet. Adjacent property to the west was acquired recently and further development is anticipated.

Production at Cable Tech, a subsidiary of Noma Industries, is on a round-the-clock basis. Electrical wire manufactured there, is shipped as far as Japan and, extensively throughout the United States.

## Bid team farewell

STOUFFVILLE — Stouffville fans will say farewell to the Bantam hockey team, Thursday (tonight), at 8 p.m. The club leaves Friday for Switzerland.

## Ski-doo team big winners

STOUFFVILLE — Matching skills against the best snowmobile drivers in North America, the Stouffville Ski-Doo team of Bonnie vanDyke, Keith Betz and Paul Howard, pocketed just under \$2,000, in Kiwartha Cup competition at Peterboro, Jan. 6 to 8.

In the first two days of the event, Bonnie vanDyke turned in a brilliant effort, putting her among the top lady contenders for the Molson Cup. Monday's success, however, was less rewarding, and she lost valuable ground.



## Bell Telephone van does complete 'flip'; driver not injured

A weird single-vehicle accident occurred Saturday, on the ninth concession County Road, Pickering Township, when a Bell Telephone Co. van, for no obvious reason, did a complete 'flip', and landed in the ditch. The driver, Bernard Lantaigue, escaped injury. — Jim Thomas.

## Forgery

STOUFFVILLE — A 21 year old Willowdale woman, has been charged by York Regional Police with uttering a forged document and impersonation, after she tried to pass false prescriptions at two Stouffville drug stores.

It is alleged that Catherine J. Hartley stole three prescription forms from a Willowdale physician, and had the papers forged in Toronto.

On Jan. 3, police said she attempted to negotiate the forms at Aiken's Pharmacy and Houston's Drugs, using the name Lynn Allan.

When questioned about them at one of the stores, the woman became frightened and ran out. She was later arrested in a combined investigation involving York and Metro officers.

## 'Skeleton' council dissolved

STOUFFVILLE — The 1971-72 council of Whitchurch-Stouffville concluded its business in a formal but inglorious manner, Jan. 4. Only four members of the 'old guard' attended, prompting expressions of regret from the presiding Mayor, Ken Laushway.

Present, in addition to the Mayor, were councillors Mrs. June Button, Merlyn Baker and Gordon Ratcliff.

Absent were councillors Tom Lonergan, Herb Simpson and Betty vanNostrand. The numbers in attendance constituted a forum, enabling members to approve the minutes of a previous meeting and then adjourn.

Joining Mayor-elect Ratcliff, councillors Button and Baker were councillors-elect Art Starr (Ward 1); Jim Wong (Ward 2); Cathy Joice (Ward 4) and Eldred King (Ward 6).

Mayor Laushway extended "the best for 1973-74" to his former associates and presented keys to the building to Mr. Ratcliff. He then joined his wife in the gallery.

The swearing-in ceremony was conducted by Clerk Ralph Corner. The invocation was performed by Rev. John Hamilton, Stouffville Missionary Church.