

Religion Page

Faith born out of wedlock

By ED ROGERS

For 27 years, Nancy Moore kept the biggest secret of her life.

Few knew of the son she gave up for adoption and none knew her suffering.

But a happy ending follows her pain-riddled story.

A phone call four years ago led to a reunion — but the expected hurt of her husband and family was ill-founded — it was a success.

After 27 years of silence, Mrs. Moore, a nurse and counsellor, shares her story with those it will help. She wrote a book and now speaks at engagements around the province.

On Tuesday morning she'll speak at the Unionville Christian Women's coffee hour at Crosby arena.

Today, she's a far cry from 1956 when she was a pregnant 17-year-old high school student in a small Minnesota town.

Unable to tell her parents, abandoned by her boyfriend and without friends close enough to trust, she carried "the terrible shame of having a child out of wedlock" by herself, she said in an interview.

"I walked those days in crushing loneliness with no one to pour out my troubles to. Maybe, I thought, if I didn't think about being pregnant then it would all disappear," she writes in her 1986 book *Secret Child*.

After graduating — three months to term — she left town to work as a housekeeper. Her employers never spoke of her condi-

tion but there came a time when she could no longer deny her pregnancy.

One stormy night three decades ago, the rain beating on the roof and the world crushing her, she cried out to God, leading the way to "a personal relationship with Christ."

After a complicated series of events, her parents appeared at the hospital while she was in labor.

But even after that, "there wasn't much talking about it," she says.

The child was given up for adoption and Mrs. Moore once again carried her secret. Her relationship with God allowed her to "roll off the burden of guilt, hurt and pain," she says. But sorrow remained.

Six years of nursing training followed and she married an Englishman, saying nothing of her secret child.

Her husband, Eric, a research chemist at the time, took her to England. When his career direction turned to teaching, the Moore's moved to Kenya, where Andrew, 22, and Jean, 19, were born.

After seven years there, they moved to Toronto in 1975. Eric now teaches chemistry at Upper Canada College.

The phone call four years ago brought "tremendous relief," she says. The wondering was over. Her son was alive.

"But with the relief came the fear," of hurting those around her, she said.

Letters were exchanged, her understanding husband was told, and the five-day reunion with Tom took place that summer.

"It was absolutely good. We all clicked together and fit together immediately."

Tom, 30, lives in Arizona. He is married with two children and has a third on the way.

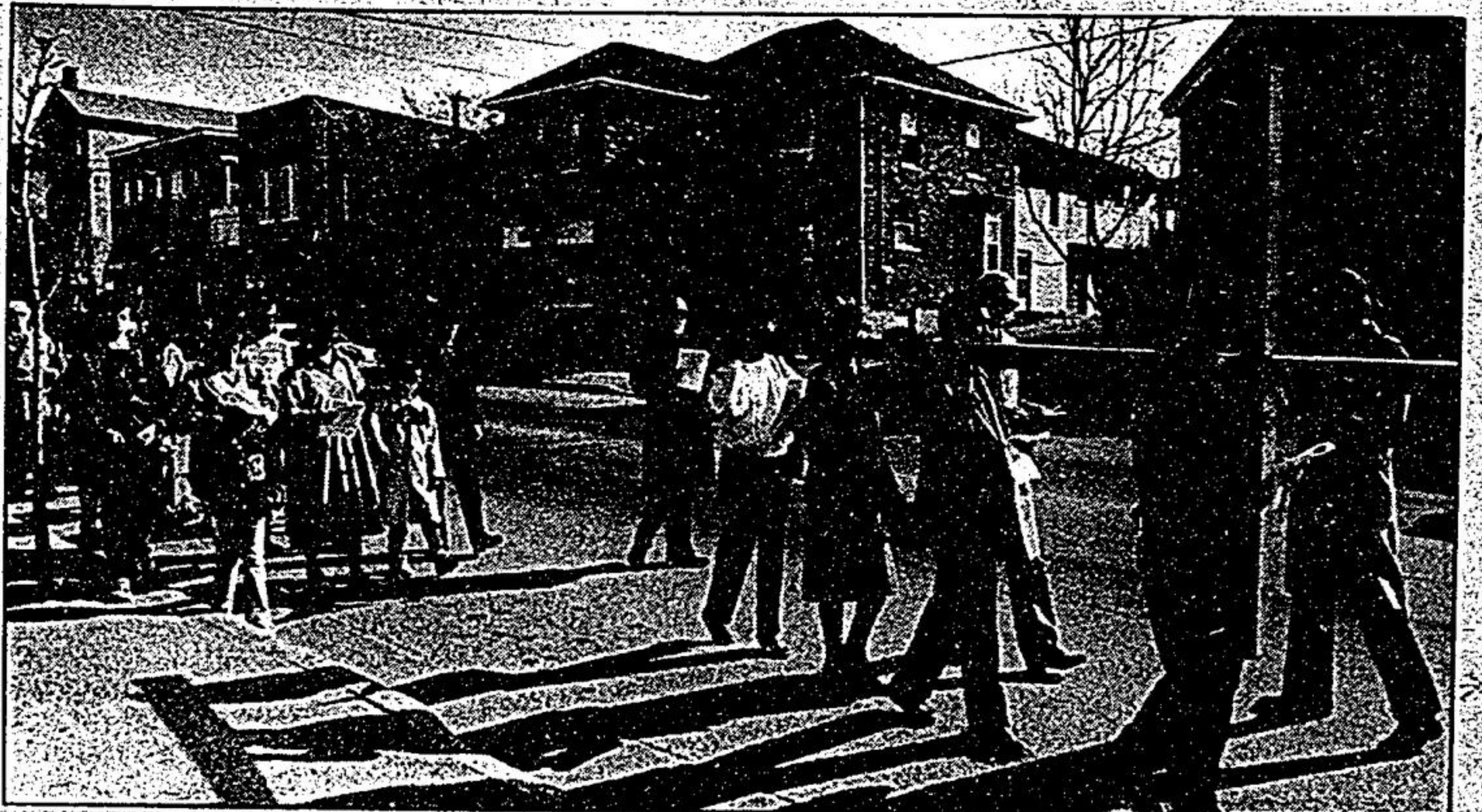
"In a fresh way he knows who he is," says Mrs. Moore. "He knew I must be hurting. He just wanted to say he was all right and

tell me he loved me," she says. And they still see each other periodically.

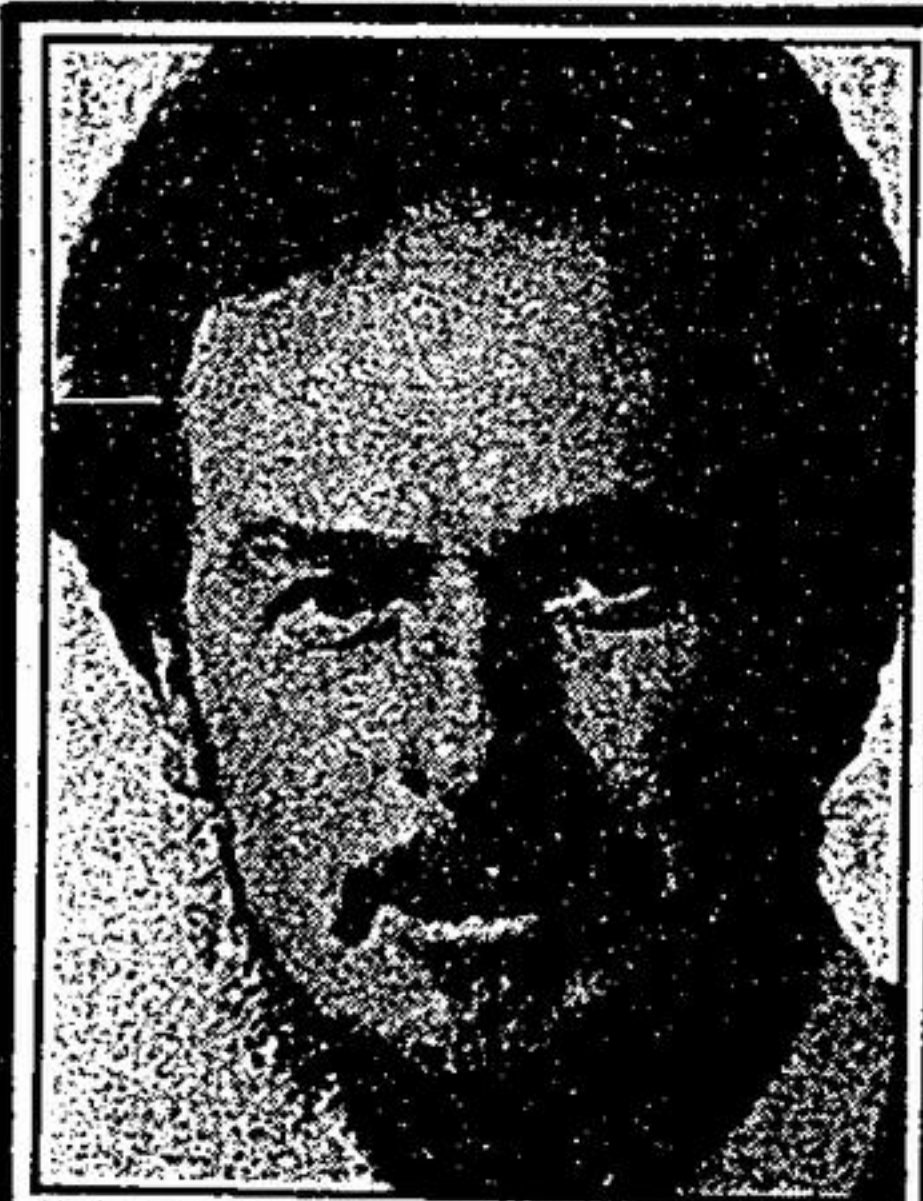
Mrs. Moore, a counsellor with 100 Huntley Street for nine years and an occupational nurse, will tell her story first-hand at the coffee hour. Beginning at 9:30 a.m., organizers are expecting about 200 women. Free babysitting will be provided.



Nancy Moore & son Tom



Members of St. Andrew's United Church re-enacted Jesus' bearing the cross on his way to the crucifixion on Good Friday. The congregation carried the cross from IGA on Markham Main St. to the church during the annual re-enactment. — Sjoerd Witteveen



JOHN MACKAY

Evolution explained

Creationism — biblical accounts of life's origins — is coming to Markham.

Creationist John Mackay will present a lecture on creation and evolution at Centennial Baptist Church, May 3 at 7 p.m.

The editor of a creationist magazine, Mr. Mackay has taught science in colleges, high schools and elementary schools in his native Australia. He is also founding director of the Creation Science Foundation.

Mr. Mackay developed methods of teaching creationism in the science classroom in Queensland, the only State in Australia to approve it.

His educational background includes majors in geology, genetics and organic chemistry. Centennial Baptist Church is located on McCowand Rd. south of Hwy 7. For more information call 294-1147.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
(Pentecostal)
Hwy. #18, north of Hwy. #7
RINGWOOD
Rev. Howard Minaker
Call 640-5555
LORD'S DAY
9:45 a.m. - Christian Education
11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
7:00 p.m. - Evening Service
Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
COFFEE HOUSE
ALL ROADS LEAD TO BETHEL.
JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY
TO HEAVEN

BLOOMINGTON CHRISTIAN GOSPEL CHURCH
Sun. April 26th, 1987
Rev. Bryan Coker
9:45 A.M. - Sunday School
11:00 A.M. - Morning Worship
7:00 P.M. - Evening Service
Wed. 8:00 P.M. - Bible Study

MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sun. April 26th, 1987
Pastor Calvin Stone
Main-Stouffer
10 a.m. - Sunday School
Wed. 7:30 P.M. - Prayer Meeting
11 a.m. - Morning Worship

HEISE HILL BROTHERS IN CHRIST CHURCH
Gormley, Ontario
Rev. Marlin K. Ressler
Pastor
Phone: 887-5489
Sunday, April 26th, 1987
Christian Education 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Ministering in Word and Song
Rev. & Mrs. Ira Stern
Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker: Rev. Moses Munsaka
Zambia, Africa
WEDNESDAY APRIL 29th
Club Ministry & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
YOU ARE WELCOME AT HEISE HILL

Come to Church

WIDEMAN MENNONITE CHURCH
Hwy. 48-North of Major, Mackenzie
Phone 640-1227
Pastor James R. Shantz
Sun., April 26th, 1987
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Hour
7:00 p.m. - Evening Fellowship
Time

BAKER HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
- On Hwy 48
2 mi. north of Hwy 47
Pastor Dana Struve
9:50 - Sunday School
11:00 A.M. - Morning Worship
WEDNESDAY
8:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study Services
ALL ARE WELCOME

PARKVIEW VILLAGE
70 Ninth Line South
Stouffville
Sunday, April 26th, 1987
7 p.m. - Jim & Marie Alexander (Professional Musicians) Vocalist & Euphonium.

THE ANGLICAN PARISH of CHRIST CHURCH
254 Sunset Blvd.
Rev. Paul D. Scuse
640-1461
Sun. April 26, 1987
8:00 A.M.
HOLY COMMUNION
10:00 A.M.
MORNING PRAYER

ST. MARK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
345 GLAD PARK AVE.
STOUFFVILLE
640-6665
SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

STOUFFVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
(a Fellowship Church)
76 Main St. West
Sun. April 26th, 1987
9:50 A.M. Sunday School All Ages (Nursery available)
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
6:50 P.M. Warm Fellowship Service
Wednesday
8:00 P.M. Prayer Meeting at Church.
For information call 640-2911
A WARM WELCOME AT EVERY SERVICE

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
101 Main St. E.
640-3151
Minister Rev. Herb Gale
Sunday, April 26th, 1987
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School and Adult Bible Study
11 a.m. Morning - Worship
Nursery supervision and Junior Church provided.

STOUFFVILLE MISSIONARY CHURCH
159 Main Street East 640-3911
Pastor: Rev. James Clubine
Assoc. Pastors: Douglas Gray
Charles Mashinter.
Sunday, April 26th, 1987
9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School
Hours and Morning Worship Services
6:30 p.m. - Club Service
WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. - Girls' & Boys' Club Programs
7:15 p.m. - Adult Prayer & Bible study
7:30 p.m. - Youth and Adult Bible study
FRIDAY, MAY 1st
6:00 p.m. - Youth Blue Jays Game
"You're Always Welcome at the Missionary Church"

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH
34 Church St. N.
640-1163
Sun. April 26th, 1987
11 A.M. - Worship Service
Church School Program For All Ages Including Infant Care
REV. JANET CAWLEY

SPRINGVALE BAPTIST CHURCH
Gormley-Stouffville Rd.
At Kennedy Rd.
Pastor Rev. Robt. Flemming
Asst Pastor - Mark Rodgers
887-5651
9:45 a.m. - Bible School
11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. - Evening Service
WED. 7:00 P.M.
Adult Prayer & Bible Study
AWANA PROGRAM
(ages 3-14 years)
FRI. 7:00 P.M.
"Youth Alive"

NURSERY PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Stouffville pentecostal church
460 MAIN ST., STOUFFVILLE
ONT. 640-5696

9:45 a.m.
9:45 a.m. Christian Education
11 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Rally
Rev. Craig F. Pitts