

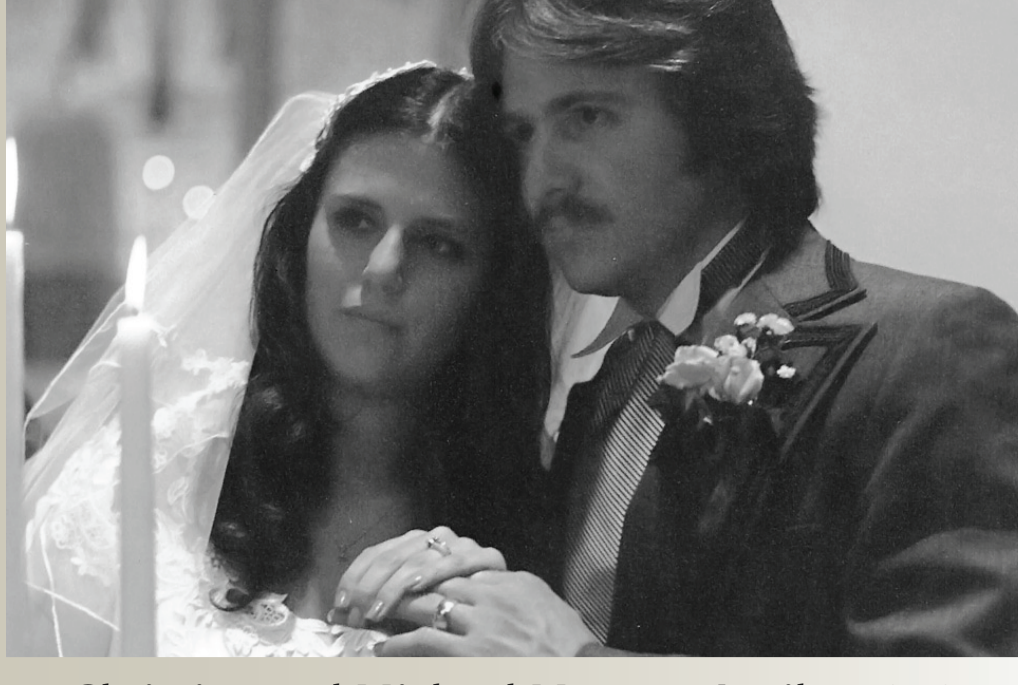
MICHAEL MORTON: A TIMELINE

AUG 13 1986
Christine Morton is murdered at 9114 Hazelhurst Drive in Austin.

Christine Morton's brother, John Kirkpatrick, finds a blood-stained blue bandana near the crime scene and gives it to Williamson County detectives.

Neighbors tell Williamson County investigators they have seen a man in a green van parked near the Morton home several times. They say he gets out of the van and walks into the woods behind their home.

The Jewel Box store in San Antonio reports to the Williamson County Sheriff's Office that someone appeared to have fraudulently used Christine Morton's credit card.



Christine and Michael Morton: April 7, 1979

Rita Kirkpatrick, Christine Morton's mother, tells Williamson County sheriffs Sgt. Don Wood that 3-year-old Eric Morton saw the brutal attack on his mother. Eric describes a "monster" with red gloves and a big mustache and says the man was not his father.

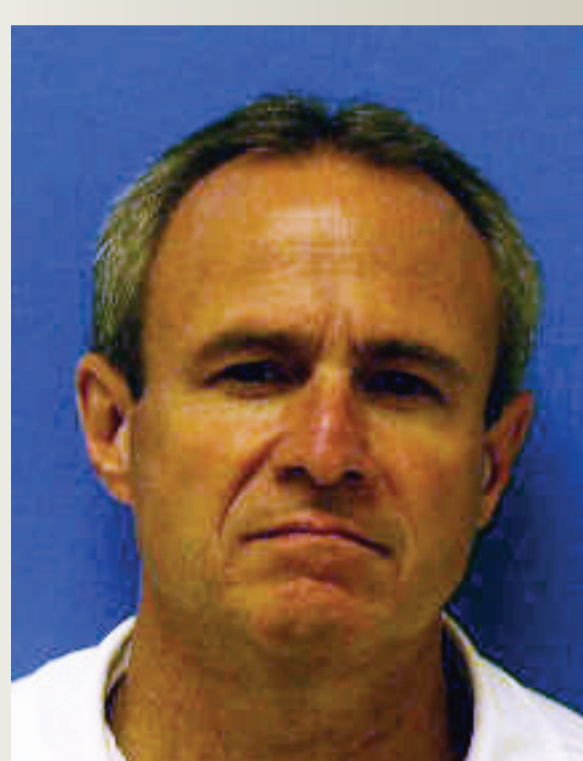
Judge William Lott orders Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson to provide all of Wood's investigative reports on the Morton murder to him for in-camera inspection to determine whether the file contains any information that could help Morton prove his innocence. Lott determines there is nothing exculpatory in the file and orders it sealed.

The trial begins. Morton argues that an intruder must have attacked and killed his wife after he left for work. Anderson argues that Morton beat his wife to death when she refused to have sex with him on the night of his 32nd birthday.

The jury finds Michael Morton guilty. He is sentenced to life in prison.



Former Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson



Michael Morton

Anderson, the Williamson County DA, becomes a state district judge after being appointed to the bench by Gov. Rick Perry. Perry appoints Anderson's first assistant, John Bradley, as district attorney.

The trial court in Williamson County grants testing on some items, including the fingernail scrapings, but denies testing on the bandana and evidence from the other murder.

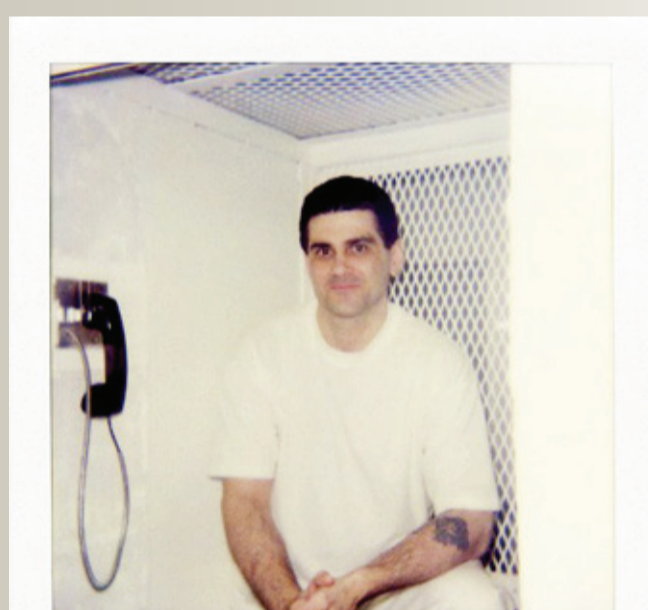
Bradley tells the *Williamson County Sun* that DNA testing is not going to identify a "mystery killer."



Williamson County District Attorney John Bradley

Perry appoints Bradley chairman of the Texas Forensic Science Commission amid a heated debate over the arson science used to convict and execute Cameron Todd Willingham for the deaths of his three daughters.

Bradley tells the *Houston Chronicle* that Morton's lawyers are "grasping at straws."



Cameron Todd Willingham

Bradley tells the *Houston Chronicle* that Morton's lawyers are "grasping at straws."

Bradley's term on the Forensic Science Commission ends after the Texas Senate fails to confirm his nomination.

After the man's DNA profile is uploaded to a national database, a hit is made, matching the DNA to that of Mark Alan Norwood, who was arrested in California in 2007.

After Judge Billy Ray Stubblefield orders the file unsealed, Morton's lawyers discover that Anderson did not provide Lott with all of Sgt. Wood's reports as was ordered. The file contains six pages of preliminary reports; it excludes the Kirkpatrick phone transcript, the reports on the use of Christine Morton's credit and forged check and the neighbors' reports about the man in the green van.

Travis County DA Rosemary Lehmborg sends a fax report to Judge Sid Harle, who was appointed to preside over the Morton case after Stubblefield recused himself, explaining that the DNA profile of Norwood found on the bandana matches DNA found on a hair at the scene of the Baker murder.

Bradley signs an agreement with the Innocence Project to allow Morton's release from prison based on the DNA evidence and to allow lawyers to gather evidence to determine whether prosecutorial misconduct led to the wrongful conviction.

Michael Morton is released from prison.

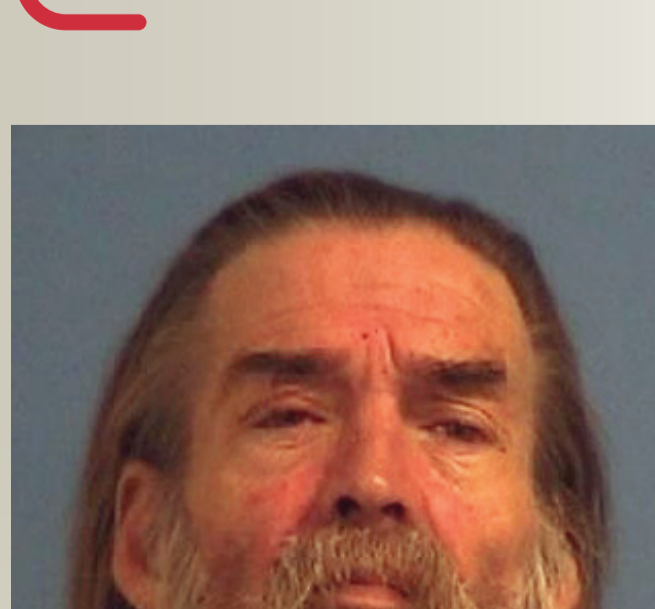


Michael Morton with his mother, Pat Morton

Former Assistant Williamson County DA Mike Davis, in a deposition, tells Morton that Anderson was in charge of the Morton prosecution. "Any murder case was Ken Anderson's baby," Davis says.

Anderson gives sworn testimony about his role in the Morton prosecution.

Police arrest Mark Alan Norwood in Bastrop, and he is charged with capital murder in connection with Christine Morton's 1986 death. Austin police say Norwood is also a suspect in the 1988 Baker murder.



Mark Alan Norwood