



**DOVE  
DILIGENCE**  
Constant, Careful Effort

## D.O.V.E. Fund Scholarships Help Students from Leper Families

by Diane VanVoorhis and Marian Gremms

The Sarge Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2018 by **Linda Stocker in memory of her husband, Gary, (Sarge)**, a Vietnam veteran, who passed away in 2015. Linda's generous donation and the continued support from the members of the Bandage Brigade, allows the D.O.V.E Fund to provide scholarships for high school and college students from impoverished, ethnic minority leper families. The students are so grateful to D.O.V.E. Fund donors because without the Sarge Scholarship, these students would not be able to attend school. In most leper families, students suffer because their meager household income does not provide enough money for tuition.

The D.O.V.E. Fund currently supports fifteen students from families living in Vietnam's remote Central Highland villages around Pleiku and Ban Me Thuot. Thirteen high school students received scholarships valued at \$100 each while two college students were each awarded \$300 to help fund their tuition.



***D.O.V.E. Fund members with Sisters and Scholars at Pleiku, January 2023***

During a recent trip to Vietnam, the D.O.V.E. Fund delegation met with eight Sarge Memorial scholars. The 9th grade students currently attend a Catholic school and wanted to express their gratitude to D.O.V.E. Fund donors. In addition to helping the students who were interviewed, the Sarge Memorial Scholarship 2022-2023 supports two college students who attend school in Ho

Chi Minh City, and one eighth grade student, two tenth grade students, one additional ninth grade student, and one eighth grade student.



**Ro Cham Vi, 15**



**Ro Cham Luan, 15**



**Ro Cham Nhiet, 15**



**Ro Cham Thuan, 15**



**Ro Cham Su'oung, 15**



**Ro Cham A Rung, 15**



**Ro Cham Man, 15**



**Ro Cham Ngun, 15**

The following are responses from the high school students who came to Pleiku to meet with the D.O.V.E. Fund delegation:

- All of the high school students live with their families and bicycle 3K (1.8 miles) to and from school each day
- The average family size of these students is 4-6 members
- All of the students have or have had grandparents afflicted with leprosy, but none of their current family members have leprosy
- The students help their families by harvesting rice, picking coffee, tending their cow(s), helping cook meals, and sweeping their homes
- The students' favorite subjects in school include music, literature, linguistics, singing, playing sports, especially soccer, and art

**Vietnamese Culture:**



# Structure of Vietnamese Names:

Names in Vietnamese are always written in this order: Surname + Middle Name + First Name.

A Vietnamese's name can have 3 letters, but sometimes, 2,4 or 5,6 letters.

Vietnamese names can have meanings: Hoa (Flower), Mai (Apricot), Minh (Bright).

There are some typical surnames, such as: Nguyễn (the most popular surname), Trần, Đỗ, Đặng, Lê, etc.

Women will not change their surname after they get married.

Middle names sometimes can show the gender. Usually, "Văn" shows the middle name for males, and "Thị" shows the middle name for females.

In Vietnam, people always call others by their first name (never by their surname).

Sometimes, people call others by their middle name along with their first name as Vietnamese think that it's a more pleasing sound. - The first name "Anh", usually goes with the middle name Eg: Ngọc Anh, Mai Anh, Lan Anh, Quỳnh Anh, Hoàng Anh, etc.

## Plan to join us at these D.O.V.E Fund Special Events



**The D.O.V.E. Fund Annual Golf Outing**  
South Toledo Golf Club  
Friday, June 9, 2023  
**Register Now!**



**You are invited as our guest to  
The D.O.V.E. Fund Charity  
Auction**

The Pinnacle, Maumee, OH  
August 19, 2023

**Register here!**

## Sponsorship Opportunities:

Champion	\$5000
Hero	\$2500
Helper	\$1000
Patron	\$500

**Champion:** Helps cover costs of the event, allows proceeds to go directly to projects. Publicity on screen, in program and from podium, VIP table, packet of invitations, wine at table.

**Hero:** VIP table, recognition in program and onscreen, packet of invitations, wine at table.

**Helper:** VIP table, recognition in program, packet of invitations, wine at table.

**Patron:** VIP Recognition in program, packet of invitations, wine at table.

Your donation will make us more sustainable and will be greatly appreciated.



The D.O.V.E. Fund  
Development of Vietnam Endeavors

PO Box 350741 Toledo OH 43635  
www.dovefund.org

Click on the picture to see a thank you letter from Nguyen Thi Binh Minh.



Nguyen Thi Binh Minh  
10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Quang Tri High School

[Help a D.O.V.E. Scholar here](#)

### Tax Tip: Use your RMD to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution to the D.O.V.E. Fund

A qualified charitable distribution is an IRA withdrawal that is paid directly from your IRA to a qualifying charity. While income tax is normally due on each traditional IRA distribution, the account owner does not need to pay taxes on the amount transferred to charity. To learn more, check with your CPA or Financial Advisor.

The D.O.V.E. Fund, an Ohio-based non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, is committed to helping the people of Vietnam through a wide range of humanitarian assistance. D.O.V.E. is an acronym for the Development of Vietnam Endeavors. The group, chartered in January 2000, has built 55 schools along with medical clinics, water purification plants and micro-finance projects throughout the country. We also provide financial aid to impoverished but deserving students through our "Young Doves" Scholarship Program. Those interested in making a tax deductible contribution and learning more about the D.O.V.E. Fund should log on to [www.dovefund.org](http://www.dovefund.org)



The D.O.V.E. Fund | P.O. Box 350741, Toledo, OH 43635

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