## VIETNAM'S CHILDREN

"Our Messengers to Generations We Will Never Know Living In Times We Will Never See"



These orphans living in the Village of Hope Orphanage, Da Nang, Vietnam have been sponsored for several years by members of the Library of Vietnam Project. We are a family of Americans and Vietnamese, working for a brighter future of hope and peace between Vietnam and America. But they are not just kids on an exciting day trip to different provinces in their homeland. They are the very reason we build — libraries and dreams. Our message is "Peace on Earth Goodwill Toward Men" and the true legacy of American generosity and hope that courses through our history from Plymouth Rock and Jamestown to Iraq and Afghanistan.

### MAKE AN INVESTMENT SURE TO PAY A BIG DIVIDEND

Please consider joining the Children's Library International family. We are small so all donations are big to us.

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# CHILDREN'S LIBRARY INTERNATIONAL



## "Building Dreams since 1999"





"Out of the pain and anguish of the past may we forge the keys to new horizons of peace and prosperity between the Vietnamese and American peoples" 15 December 1999, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai, Vietnam

**D**ecember 8, 1999 Chuck Theusch returned to Vietnam on the 30th Anniversary of his first trip as a member of the

United States Army to meet former enemies at Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province, Vietnam. They discovered that their lives had gone along the usual paths after the war—education, jobs, family—-that all soldiers of all wars travel after serving their countries.

There was the natural reflection on the war, its hardships, the loved and lost, the fallen comrades. But inevitably the conversation

turned to the present, who they are now, what they did for a living and family stories. Finally, the natural progression led to a vision for the future and the legacy the veterans on all sides wish to leave behind.

Differences as to war experiences, political, cultural and social heritage gave way to transcendent shared universal hopes and dreams. They agreed that reconciliation and cooperation between the wartime generations of former enemies would inspire a legacy of hope, peace and prosperity for future generations.

At first a joint project to build a river bridge destroyed in a recent flood would be a memorial. But they talked long and came up with a larger vision of hope, a different kind of bridge, *a bridge to future generations*. They would build a Library/Learning Center in Duc Pho dedicated in the name of its American sponsor and the local Vietnamese who would build it.

Since its Dedication December 13th, 2001, the Theusch Duc Pho Library stands as a monument to the spirit of hope and peace as America's Final Legacy of the Vietnam War. **But that was only the beginning...** 



## BONG SON 61st LUCKY STARS LIBRARY LEARNING CENTER

"Lucky Stars are in the Future of Bong Son's Children"



When Helicopter pilots Mike Zogleman and Ken Embers first showed up in Bong Son Vietnam, in 1969 they were on a mission---they did their duty in war

with the rest of the 61<sup>st</sup> Assault Helicopter Company. As the old saying goes, sometimes the more things change, the more they stay the same. Some 40 years later, in December 2009 they showed up again in Bong Son, once again on a mission--same mission, different means.

The Mission is (and always has been) to create the opportunity for a better life filled with all the hopes, dreams and possibilities for the people of Vietnam that we Americans have

such good fortune to enjoy. Trading in their Chopper Pilots' gear they have donned a new mantel, as investors in the lives and futures of the children of Bong Son. Deactivated after Vietnam, the 61<sup>st</sup> Assault Helicopter Company has now been "REACTIVATED" by the very guys the

who served so well so long ago. Known as the "Lucky Stars" they are back in action.





Bong Son is still poor and because of its hinterland location, is largely ignored by foundations and charitable organizations. When the 61<sup>st</sup> returned it meant a lot. Soon the children of Bong Son will have a Library/Learning Center to inspire their imaginations and dreams and will have their "Lucky Stars" to thank for it.





CHILDREN'S LIBRARY INTERNATIONAL



