

Honoring the Passing of Rae Cheney, PeaceTrees Vietnam Co-Founder

On August 14, 2017 PeaceTrees Vietnam lost a shining light - Rae Cheney, founding board member and 97-year-old Gold Star mother of US Army helicopter pilot Dan Cheney who died during a rescue mission in Vietnam.

Rae was our moral compass and an inspiration to everyone at PeaceTrees Vietnam. She embodied values that PeaceTrees stands for: love, compassion, healing, understanding, and welcoming to all.

For twenty-two years, Rae dedicated her life to transforming sorrow into service, building trusting friendships with the Vietnamese people, handwriting thousands of thank you notes, speaking frequently with Vietnam veterans, including Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association.

At age 90, Rae traveled to Quang Tri Province, Vietnam to dedicate the Mothers' Peace Library and Dan Cheney kindergarten in honor of her son. She was greeted warmly by a Vietnamese Mother who lost her two sons when the war passed by her village.



In Rae's words, "The moment Ms. Ho Ti Moan and I embraced each other in love and understanding, I asked myself, who could have ever dreamed this exchange of forgiveness would be visible for the world to see?"

We hope you will join us for Rae's Celebration of Life Service at Grace Church on Bainbridge Island, Washington, Friday, September 29th at 2:00 pm. Reception to follow.

Grace Church, 8595 East Day Road, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 www.gracehere.org

To honor Rae's legacy, and further her commitment to healing through PeaceTrees Vietnam's work, the Board of Directors has established the <u>Rae Cheney Legacy Circle</u>. If you would like to learn more, please visit our <u>website</u> or call our office at 206-441-6136.