

# Patrick Arnold Lucero Libraries



Ba Long Commune, Vietnam



Pueblo, Colorado

**\*Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 14: (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**

10:10 pm: Arrival to Hanoi. Asiana Airlines. Flight OZ 0733

Bus to hotel. Check in Golden Lotus 1 hotel - 39 Hang Trong Street, Hoan Kiem Dist., Ha Noi. Tel: +84.4.39380901. Web: [www.goldenlotushotel.com.vn](http://www.goldenlotushotel.com.vn) . Email: [info@goldenlotushotel.com.vn](mailto:info@goldenlotushotel.com.vn)

**\*Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel. Free time in Hanoi.

10:00 am: Temple of Literature. Van Mieu str. Hanoi

11:30 am: Lunch at KOTO rest. 59 Van Mieu, Hanoi. Tel: 84-4-37470337

1:30 pm: Ethnology museum. Nguyen Van Huyen str. Hanoi.

6:30 pm: Dinner at Mediterraneo. 23 Nha Tho, Hanoi. Tel: +84.4.3826.6288

**\*Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel.

6:30AM: Check out. Bus to airport. Flight Hanoi–Hue: VN1541 (EDT: 8:50 AM –EAT: 10:00 AM)

10:30 AM: Bus to Dong Ha.

12:30 PM: Check in Huu Nghi hotel. Add: 68 Tran Hung Dao, Dong Ha. Tel: 84.53.3852.361

1:00 PM : Lunch at Phuc Khang rest - Hung Vuong str, Dong Ha. Tel: +84.53.3582.999

Afternoon: Freetime

6:30 pm: Welcome dinner (with DoFA, WU and PTVN's staff) at Huu Nghi hotel. Add: 68 Tran Hung Dao, Dong Ha. Tel: 84.53.3852.361

**\*Bob & Quang:**

12:00 PM: Check out.

4:00 PM: Meeting with VUFO at 105A Quan Thanh str. Ba Dinh district, Hanoi

6:00 PM: Taxi to Noi Bai airport. Flight VN1547 (EDT: 8:30 PM – EAT: 9:40 PM)

PTVN van pick up to Dong Ha.

**\*Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

7:30 am: Danaan Parry Landmine Education Center, plant trees

9:30 am: PeaceTrees Friendship Village, kindergarten, meet landmine victims

11:30 am: Lunch at Tan Chau 1 rest. 72 Le Duan, Dong Ha. Tel: +84.53.3852.720

1:30 pm: Bus to Quang Tri citadel and La Vang church

6:30 pm: Dinner Cong Doan rest. 04 Le Loi, Dong Ha. Tel: +84.53.3850.588

**\*Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel

7:00 am: Bus to Quang Binh. Visit Paradise Cave

1:00 pm: Lunch at Lake House rest. Bo Trach dist. Quang Binh province. Tel: +84.52.3675.999

Back to Dong Ha

6:30 pm: Dinner at Me Kong rest. 66 Le Duan, Dong Ha. Tel: +84.53.3852.775

**\*Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**



Breakfast at the hotel

7:30 am: Bus to Huong Hoa. Visit EOD team and observe the UXOs demolition

10:30 am: Mothers' Peace Library & Dan Cheney Kindergarten in Khe Da Village

11:30 am: Lunch at Se Pon rest. Lao Bao townlet. Tel: +84.53.3777.222

2:00 pm : Visit Ta Con museum, Khe Sanh

3:30 pm: World Premiere of Dave Hansen's PTVN Documentary at

Thai Ninh hotel, 170 Le Duan str., Khe Sanh townlet. Tel: +84.53.3781.994.

6:30 pm: Dinner at Phuc Khang rest. Hung Vuong str, Dong Ha. Tel: +84.53.3582.999

**\*Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel.

7:30 am: Bus to Truong Son cemetery, Ben Hai river, Hien Luong bridge, Vinh Moc tunnel.

12:30 pm: Lunch at Cua Tung beach.

5:30 pm: Cooking with Quang Tri Women's Union

**\*Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel

7:30 am: Check out hotel. Bus to Hue city.

9:30 am : Check in Camellia hote l– 57 Ben Nghe, Hue. Tel: +84.54.3943.943

Web: [www.camellia-hotels.com.vn](http://www.camellia-hotels.com.vn), Email: [info@camellia-hotels.com.vn](mailto:info@camellia-hotels.com.vn)

10:00 am : Hue citadel

11:45 am: Lunch at Mandarin Coffee rest. 24 Tran Cao Van, Hue. Tel: +84.54.3821.281

1:30 pm: Hue citadel, Kings' tombs, Thien Mu pagoda

6:30 pm: Dinner at Jardin de Carambole rest. 32 Dang Tran Con, Hue. Tel: +84.54.3548.815

**\*Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 14: (B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel

Freetime at Hue/ visit An Cuu, Dong Ba market

11:00: Lunch at DMZ rest. 60 Le Loi, Hue. Tel: +84.54.3823.414

Afternoon: Freetime

6:30 pm: Dinner at Carambole rest. 19 Pham Ngu Lao, Hue. Tel: +84.54.3810.491

**\*Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 14: (B,D)**

Breakfast at hotel

8:30 am: Check out hotel.

9:00 am: Bus to Hoi An. Stop at Marble Mountains, Danang city.

12:30 pm: Check in Thanh Binh III hotel. Add: 98 Ba Trieu, Hoi An. Tel: +84.510.3916.777

Lunch on your own

6:30 pm: Dinner at Morning Glory rest. 106 Nguyen Thai Hoc, Hoi An. Tel: +84.510.2241.555

**\*Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 14: (B,L)**

Breakfast at hotel.

8:00 am: Join 1-day Hoi An Eco-tour (lunch on boat)

2:00 pm: Back to hotel

Dinner on your own

**\*Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 14:** (B,L,D)

Breakfast at hotel

8:00 am: 1-day My Son Tour

12:00 pm: Lunch in Hoi An

Afternoon: Freetime

6:30 pm: Farewell dinner at CarGo restaurant –107 Nguyen Thai Hoc,Hoi An.Tel:+84.510.3910.489

**\*Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 14:** (B)

Breakfast at hotel. Lunch and dinner on your own.

9:00 am: Check out. Bus to DaNang airport. 10 pax fly to HaNoi: **VN164** (EDT: 11:25 am/ EAT: 12:40 pm)

Bus to hotel. Check in Golden Lotus 1 hotel - 39 Hang Trong Street, Hoan Kiem Dist., Ha Noi. Tel:

+84.4.39380901. Web: [www.goldenlotushotel.com.vn](http://www.goldenlotushotel.com.vn) . Email: [info@goldenlotushotel.com.vn](mailto:info@goldenlotushotel.com.vn)

Bob and Susan Stokes stay at another place.

Pamela Jean Johnson flies to SaiGon and leaves Vietnam on Apr 12. Flight OZ 0732

**\*Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 14:** (B)

Breakfast at hotel.

Lunch and dinner on your own.

6:00 pm: Check out.

8:00 pm: Bus to airport. Fly to US. Asiana Airlines. Flight **OZ 0734**, Depart at 11:00 pm.

**\*Sunday, Apr 6<sup>th</sup> 14:**

Bob and Susan Stokes fly back US. Asiana Airlines. Flight **OZ 0734**, Depart at 11:00 pm



## PEACETREES VIETNAM



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### AT A GLANCE

Global Giving

Capacity Building  
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General Population

Serves International - South  
Asia

Founded in 1995  
Staff: 7 FTE  
Individuals served: 3,500

### DESCRIPTION

PeaceTrees Vietnam is a Seattle-based humanitarian organization working in Central Vietnam to assist those whose lives and livelihoods are threatened by the explosive remnants of war. We sponsor demining and mine risk education, victim assistance, community building projects and citizen diplomacy in partnership with the people of Quang Tri Province. PeaceTrees was founded in 1995 to renew relationships with the people of Vietnam and to promote a safe, healthy future for children and families.

#### Mission Statement

PeaceTrees Vietnam is dedicated to healing communities affected by war through landmine removal and education, survivor assistance, community assistance, and citizen diplomacy.

### PEACETREES VIETNAM

509 Olive Way  
Suite 1226  
Seattle, WA 98101  
(206) 441-6136

**Michael G. Auch,**  
Executive Director

[info@peacetreesvietnam.org](mailto:info@peacetreesvietnam.org)  
<http://www.peacetreesvietnam.org/>

### PROGRAMS

#### PEACETREES VIETNAM PROGRAMS

##### Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance Removal

PeaceTrees Vietnam sponsors the removal of landmines and unexploded ordnance to promote a safe and healthy environment for children and families in Central Vietnam. The landmine clearance teams proactively clear land known to be contaminated so that it can be used productively for farming and community activities. In addition, the clearance teams remove unexploded ordnance near schools, community centers, homes, and other public places by responding to reports received throughout the year.

##### Mine Risk Education

PeaceTrees Vietnam seeks to prevent loss of life and injury from UXO accidents by educating children and communities about types of UXO, the risks and what to do if they are found by members of the community in their day to day activities. In 2008, PeaceTrees expanded its MRE programs to include education for ethnic minorities, providing training and educational materials in remote areas and languages where it had not previously been provided.

##### Economic Development

PeaceTrees Vietnam seeks to improve the lives of families in Quang Tri Province through economic development activities that affect housing, education and jobs. PeaceTrees Vietnam builds libraries and kindergartens, plants trees, offers survivor assistance, scholarships and micro-credit loans.

#### RECENT SUCCESSES AND CURRENT CHALLENGES

Since 1995 PeaceTrees Vietnam has:

- Cleared over 650 acres of UXO contaminated land.
- Removed 81,000 UXO items.
- Planted over 44,000 trees.
- Hosted over 52 Citizen Diplomacy Trips with more than 668 participants.
- Provided Mine Risk Education for over 86,000 people.
- Built 100 family homes, 11 libraries & 8 kindergartens.
- Assisted over 950 UXO victims and their families.

PeaceTrees Vietnam needs funding for general support to continue our life saving work.

#### Specific funding needs:

- Capacity building grant for a Development Director in Seattle, Washington.

## EVALUATION

PeaceTrees Vietnam sponsors demining and mine risk education, survivor assistance, citizen diplomacy trips and community building projects in partnership with the people of Quang Tri Province.

**Proven Success**

PeaceTrees Vietnam was the first international, nongovernmental organization to conduct demining work in Vietnam. In 15 years, PeaceTrees Vietnam has destroyed over 54,000 pieces of unexploded ordinance, provided mine risk education to more than 66,000 children and adults, and planted more than 41,000 indigenous trees, in addition to many other successes.

**Collaboration**

PeaceTrees Vietnam was founded with the primary goal of rebuilding relationships between the United States and Vietnam, which they continue to successfully achieve through citizen diplomacy trips. To date, over 450 citizen diplomats have traveled to Vietnam with PeaceTrees, including students and faculty from Edmonds Community College and the University of Washington. In addition, PeaceTrees works with local government organizations to identify the communities most in need and works to eliminate barriers to successful community development, such as landmine removal and providing women with access to microcredit loans.

**Financial Health**

In addition to receiving support from a multitude of individual donors, several charitable foundations, local businesses, and an annual luncheon, PeaceTrees is also supported by the United States Department of State, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement—marking their expertise in landmine removal and education and strong relationships with local communities dedicated to clearing viable farmland of explosive remnants of war.

(Evaluated by the [Seattle International Foundation](#), a supporting organization of The Seattle Foundation)

**Grant History with The Seattle Foundation:**

Grants Awarded through The Seattle Foundation [Grantmaking Program](#):

DATE	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
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There are no recent grants awarded to this organization.

## FINANCIALS

**Information as of most recently completed  
fiscal year: 12/31/2012**
**REVENUE**

Contributions	\$131,232
Foundation	\$105,510
Government Grants	\$504,067
Program Services	\$0
Investments	
Special Events	\$143,835
Other	\$73,902
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$958,546</b>

**EXPENSES**

Program Services	\$780,193
Administration	\$106,193
Fundraising	\$45,251
Other	\$0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$931,637</b>

<b>NET GAIN/LOSS</b>	<b>\$26,909</b>
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## SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS



## PeaceTrees Vietnam Quarterly Newsletter

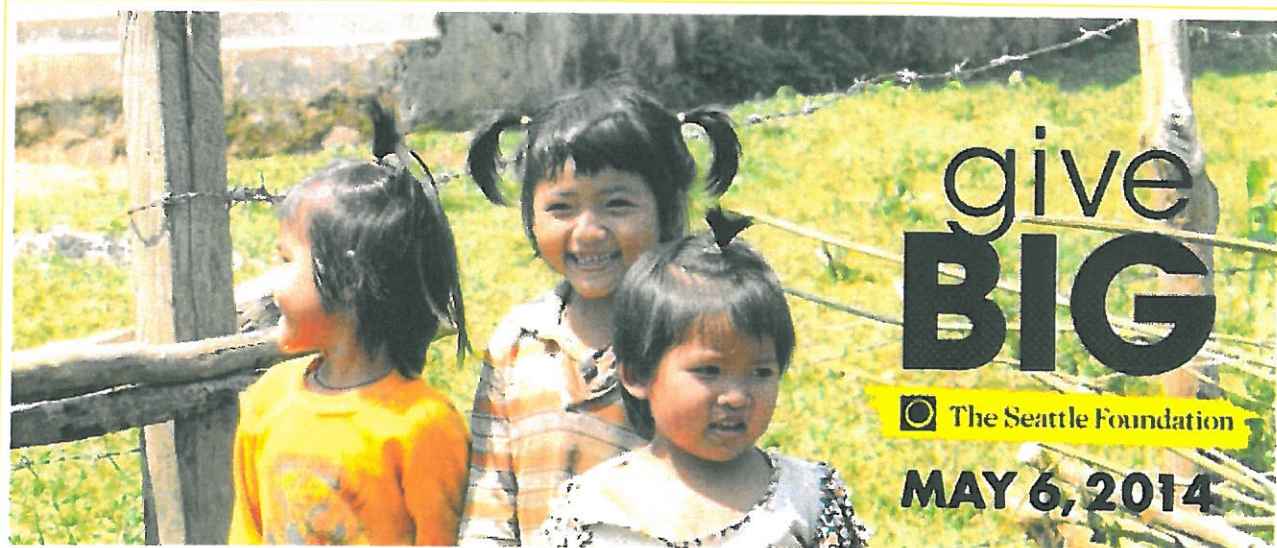
**PeaceTrees Vietnam** <info@peacetreesvietnam.org>

Reply-To: info@peacetreesvietnam.org

To: diann.logie@pueblolibrary.org

Fri, Apr 25, 2014 at 5:16 PM

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**Donate Now**

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Network for Good

**Travel itch?**

Serve the community  
in Quang Tri Province  
and join us on a trip  
this summer!

Dear Diann,

PeaceTrees Vietnam has been hard at work for the families and children of Quang Tri Province in 2014. Thank you for all the ways you have supported our work so far this year.

We've begun fundraising for three projects, all of which are scheduled to be completed in 2014. We are grateful to have incredible people sponsoring each of these projects:

*Ba Long Village Community Center - Dan Gilman  
Mu O Library - Megan McCloskey, Sue Warner  
Bean, Tim Lewis, Diann Logie, and Marci Williams  
Khe Sanh Kindergarten - Mary Van Cleave*

Learn how you can support our 2014 building projects [here](#).

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the April 12th premiere of *Soldiers' Sanctuary*, a moving documentary about inter-generational veterans dealing with the deep scars of war. We are so pleased that

**August 21 -  
September 4, 2014**

[Find out more](#)  
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PeaceTrees Vietnam  
509 Olive Way  
Suite 1226  
Seattle, WA 98101

**206.441.6136**

[info@peacetreesvietnam.org](mailto:info@peacetreesvietnam.org)

**Like us on Facebook** 

The documentary, directed and produced by Luke Hansen, has already won an award from the American Movie Awards!

We also sent off our first Citizen Diplomacy group in March. Ten PeaceTrees Ambassadors were able to visit Quang Tri to learn first hand about our life saving work. Each traveler returned with a new warmth and passion, ignited by time with the people of Vietnam.



**Packed house for *Soldiers' Sanctuary* Premiere at the Seattle Public Library**

With gratitude, we move forward in 2014.

Warm wishes,  
Michael Auch  
Executive Director

### *Help children who live with the explosive remnants of war:* **GiveBIG - May 6th, 2014**

When you donate to PeaceTrees Vietnam on **MAY 6TH**, The Seattle Foundation will stretch your gift, making it even **BIGGER!** Join with the Seattle community this year and GiveBIG!

**\$250** will feed an entire kindergarten class for one year

**\$100** will provide emergency medical assistance to 1 landmine accident survivor

**\$50** will plant 5 indigenous trees on safely cleared land

Make your gift here.  
Make sure you don't forget to donate on May 6th here.  
More info on GiveBIG here.

*Young Man Survives Explosion Last  
Week*



A wartime accident severely injured a coffee farmer in Quang Tri last week, reminding us of the daily threats facing children and families in Vietnam and the importance of PeaceTrees Vietnam's work.

More than 80% of the land in Quang Tri Province is littered with mines and unexploded ordnance. That means that every single person who lives in Quang Tri Province is daily affected by the risk of a lethal explosion, that every walk or drive could be life changing, and that fear defines choices in Quang Tri.

Last Tuesday, Ho Lay was planting a tree on his family's coffee farm in Huang Tan Commune on the west side of Quang Tri Province. As Lay dug a hole for his tree, a bomb exploded leaving Lay severely burned and without his right hand.



**Ho Lay is recovering in the hospital one week after the accident**

The coffee farm provides Lay's family with an income of about \$600 annually. His family did not have the funds to provide the critical medical support Lay needed, so they called PeaceTrees Vietnam for the medical and emotional support he and his family needed.

We thank you for your ongoing support of our programs that can help ease the pain of tragedies like Lay's. Please continue to stand with us as we strive to restore safety and health for the people of Quang Tri Province.

## Citizen Diplomacy Update

In late March, Director of External Affairs, Bob Stokes, and I traveled with a group from around the U.S. on a PeaceTrees Vietnam Citizen Diplomacy delegation to Quang Tri, Hanoi, Hue, and Hoi An. Seeing the positive impact our work has in Quang Tri was extremely moving, and continues to be a powerful motivator in my work here at home. Here are some notes from other travelers on our recent trip in their own words:

"Seeing the positive results of PeaceTrees' work was great. I was able to see the

contact of landmines and bombs collected in a single week. The PeaceTrees team doing the demining obviously have a lot of pride in their work." -Pamela



**Our most recent Citizen Diplomacy group planting trees in Dong Ha**

"I have a much better appreciation for the country and the war that was so much a part of my young adulthood." - Sarah

"Being able to meet and interact with the Vietnamese people was amazing. I was humbled by what I saw and experienced when learning about how the people live. . . . Being able to give something to these wonderful people is what made this trip so meaningful." - Carolyn

To read more about our Citizen Diplomacy program, or to join us on our next trip, [click here](#). We would love to have you join us!

-Claire Yunker, Program & Operations Manager

Questions or Comments? Contact us at [info@peacetreesvietnam.org](mailto:info@peacetreesvietnam.org)

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## Patrick Arnold Lucero

Specialist Four

D CO, 1ST BN, 503RD INFANTRY, 173RD ABN BDE, USARV

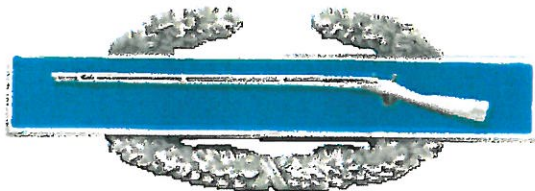
Army of the United States

[Pueblo, Colorado](#)

August 13, 1948 to March 14, 1968

**PATRICK A LUCERO** is on the Wall at [Panel 44E, Line 48](#)

See the [full profile](#) or [name rubbing](#) for Patrick Lucero



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Last update 04/19/2014

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**Patrick Arnold Lucero****ON THE WALL:** Panel 44E Line 48**PERSONAL DATA:**

Home of Record Pueblo, CO  
Date of birth: 08/13/1948

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**MILITARY DATA:**

Service: Army of the United States  
Grade at loss: E4  
Rank/Rate: Specialist Four  
ID No: 54901047  
MOS/RATING: 11B2P: Infantryman (Airborne Qual)  
Length Service: 00  
Unit: D CO, 1ST BN, 503RD INFANTRY, 173RD  
ABN BDE, USARV

**CASUALTY DATA:**

Start Tour: 11/06/1967  
Incident Date: 03/14/1968  
Casualty Date: 03/14/1968  
Age at Loss: 19  
Location: Kontum Province, South Vietnam  
Remains: Body recovered  
Casualty Type: Hostile, died outright  
Casualty Reason: Ground casualty  
Casualty Detail: Multiple fragmentation wounds  
URL: [www.VirtualWall.org/dl/LuceroPA01a.htm](http://www.VirtualWall.org/dl/LuceroPA01a.htm)  
Data accessed: 5/17/2014

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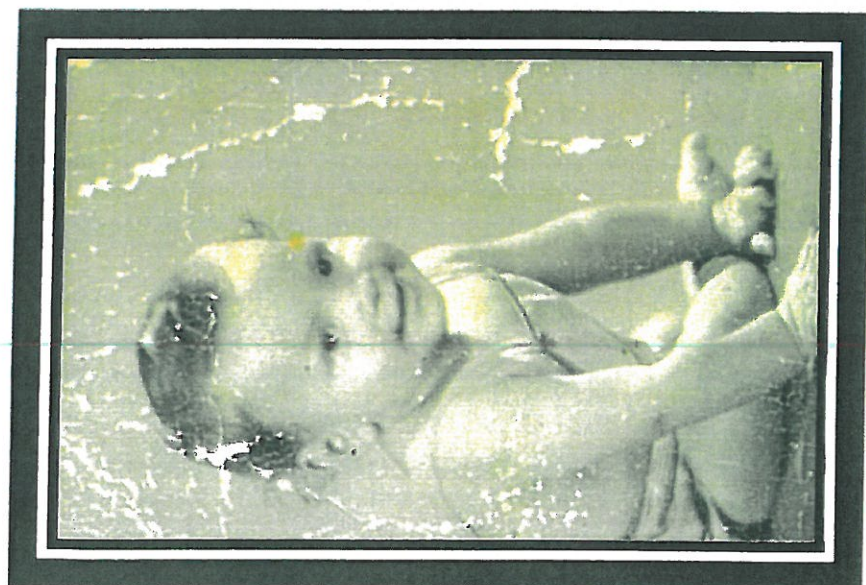


# Patrick Arnold Lucero











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## News > Local

Published: September 22, 2009 12:00 PM | News &gt; Local &gt; Local

### Remembering a special soldier

Along with East High's 50th anniversary this weekend, friends will remember 11 East grads killed in the Vietnam War.

By NICK BONHAM  
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

A project is under way to build a library overseas in memory of a young Puebloan killed in the Vietnam War.

Pat Lucero, a 1966 East High School graduate, was killed in battle in March 1968. The 19-year-old was a member of the U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade.

More than four decades later, friends and project sponsors Jim Lewis and Bill Bailey, both East alumni, have teamed to the Pat Lucero Library Project.

"This project is not to lament Pat's death, but to honor his life and the way he lived his 19 years," Lewis wrote in a letter.

The goal to build the library is \$20,000. It's being built in partnership with Peace Trees Vietnam, a Seattle- and Vietnam-based nonprofit that is "dedicated to reversing the legacy of war." The library is expected to be built in the Da Krong District of Quang Tri Province in central Vietnam.

And with the festivities of the 50th anniversary of East High planned this weekend, Lewis and Bailey will be here to honor their alma mater and also raise funds for the project.

"A part of me died the day Pat died. He was an extraordinary guy and a better friend," Lewis said in a phone interview from his home in Jupiter, Fla.

Lewis and Bailey thought of the library idea while attending a dedication

ceremony for a kindergarten school in Vietnam, which was built in memory of another American soldier, a comrade of Lewis', with the help of Peace Trees Vietnam.

Lewis helped raise the funds to build the school with the help of Peace Trees Vietnam.

"Together, Bill Bailey (Pueblo East High School class of '66) and I planted a tree for Pat Lucero adjacent to Jesse's Kindergarten. While jumping down the reddish-brown earth around Pat's tree, we looked at each



COURTESY PHIL THOMAS LEWIS: Pat Lucero was a 1966 East High School graduate who died in the Vietnam War in March 1968. He was serving as a member of the U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade.

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4-cyl. 158,000 miles



other and had the same thought at the same time. We need to find a project to honor our friend Pat in some way," Lewis said.

Lewis, a former Marine, sheriff's deputy and chairman for Earl Reynolds, was instrumental in raising funds for the kindergarten school in Vietnam. He and Bailey are now seeking funds to help fund Lucero's library.

They have raised \$5,000.

Sunday will feature two events aimed at honoring East Eagles who died in Vietnam.

First, a memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. at St. Leonard Catholic Church, 1402 E. Seventh St.

"It's not a wake, it's not a funeral, it's a celebration of life and honoring all the guys from East who died. At the same time, we'll be fundraising for Pat's library," Lewis said.

After Mass, the Hangar Restaurant, 100 W. 23rd St., will host a "Dutch Lunch" with a catcher, former Frankie Spinuzzi, is hosting the event in honor of his brother and East Eagle, Bobby Spinuzzi, who was wounded in Vietnam and later died of his injuries.

*by Mike Juchacz, staff*

#### SCHEDULE FOR PAT LUCERO OBSERVANCE

**Thursday:** Group will meet in Denver for "Profile: Founder Night" where they will discuss plans for the library. The meeting will be at the home of Colorado Supreme Court Justice William Lucero, East High 1965 grad, who is Pat Lucero's brother.

**Friday:** At noon at the Hangar, 100 W. 23rd St., there will be a meeting of those coordinating the library project.

**Sunday:** At 11 a.m. at St. Leonard Catholic Church, 1402 E. Seventh St., a Mass is planned to honor Pat Lucero and 10 other late East High students. The East High Color Guard will escort families of the fallen soldiers to their seats. There will be an after-Mass reception from 1 to 3 p.m. and then a "Dutch Lunch" reception at the Hangar, hosted by Frankie Spinuzzi in honor of his brother, Bobby Spinuzzi, who died from injuries sustained while a Marine in Vietnam.

#### EAST HIGH MEN KILLED IN VIETNAM

David L. Blunn, 19

Daniel J. Clevenger, 21

Robert W. Ekksworth, 21

Allen D. Ford, 19

Ronald Katz, 25

Patrick A. Lucero, 19

John P. Martinez, 25

Michael P. Martinez, 19

Miquel E. Naranjo Jr., 18

Michael P. Tomic (Wood), 19

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## News > Local

Published: September 27, 2009 10:04 pm

1 Location(s)

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### 'After so many years'

East alumni, friends, family gather to honor 14 who died in Vietnam

By NICK BONHAM  
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

With tears in their eyes and candles and photos of beloved fallen soldiers in their hands, family, friends and alumni of East High School on Sunday remembered 14 of their fellow Eagles who died in the Vietnam War.

It was a solemn, emotional turn in the festivities of East High's 50th anniversary.

At a memorial Mass at St. Leander Church on the East Side, a capacity crowd of at least 200 turned out for the memorable service.

One of those in attendance was Bill Lucero, an East High alum whose brother, Pat Lucero, was killed in action in Vietnam in March 1969. He was 19. Bill Lucero, who serves the state as the presiding disciplinary judge for the Colorado Supreme Court, was one of the service's organizers.

"It's just been overwhelming. It's amazing that after so many years people care this much," said the 1965 East graduate, his voice trembling with emotion. "It's been a beautiful experience. A beautiful experience. Getting together with these people has been difficult and very emotional."

A fundraising effort is underway to build a library in Vietnam in memory of Pat Lucero.

Family members of the 14 fallen soldiers were ushered into the church behind

East High School's Junior ROTC honor guard.

They placed photos and burning white candles on a display in front of the church that was blessed by father Tony Wojcinski.



**CHIEFTAIN PHOTOS MIKE SWITNEY**  
Members of the East High School Junior ROTC perform a ceremony to honor the 14 alumni of the school killed in the Vietnam War during Mass Sunday at St. Leander Church. The 14 war deaths were the most of any Pueblo Square.



A photograph of Vietnam casualty Pat Lucero is carried by his brother, Judge Bill Lucero, during the Mass.

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After communion, the names of the departed were read and a bell rung. Yellow roses were placed in vases in memory of each soldier.

"Love and peace. It stands for love and peace," said alum and Vietnam veteran Jim Lewis, explaining the symbolism of the yellow flowers.

Lewis and fellow alum Bill Bailey are leading the fundraising efforts for the Pat Lucero Library, which is expected to be built in the Da Krong District of the Quang Tri Province in Central Vietnam.

Wojcinski led the congregation in a prayer for the soldiers, their families and offered laminated cards and pens of St. Martin of Tours, a patron saint of soldiers.

"It's a very important moment for all of you and we're so glad so many of you can be here," Wojcinski told the congregation. "I'm so glad you could be here to support those families who recall their L-35."

Church let out to the music of "America the Beautiful." The families and congregation gathered outside for a 21-gun salute and playing of "Taps" by the Pueblo Veterans Band.

[nackb@chieftain.com](mailto:nackb@chieftain.com)

#### THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

The names of East High students killed in the Vietnam War who were honored Sunday at St. Leander Church:

David L. Blum  
Allen D. Ford  
Pat Lucero  
Leo Mascarenas  
Leslie W. Williams  
Larry Taylor (teacher)  
John P. Martinez  
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morning brew | tina griego

## Griego: Friends' memories build a library

By Tina Griego  
Denver Post Columnist

Posted: 03/09/2010 01:00:00 AM MST

The call came into Bill Lucero's office last spring.

"This is Bill Bailey," the man on the other end said. "I was Pat's friend. Do you remember me?"

"Of course I remember you," Lucero replied. Pat was Lucero's younger brother, and Bailey was one of his best friends in high school (Pueblo's East, class of 1966). The two got into a lot of trouble together. Three weeks before graduation, Pat persuaded Bailey it'd be fun to cut each other's hair. You know where that went. Two bald-headed boys.

It'd been 40 years since Lucero and Bailey had spoken. Bailey had become a captain in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, working for the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. Lucero is the presiding disciplinary judge for the Colorado Supreme Court.

On the other end of the line, a nervous Bailey said: "I want to run an idea by you, and I don't know what you are going to think. If you don't think it's OK, say so, and we'll let it go. We'd like to build a library in Vietnam in Pat's honor."

Silence.

Bailey, who'd put off this call several times, could hear Lucero crying.

"You'll have to give me a few moments," Lucero said, and what he thought was: *I thought everyone had forgotten Pat.*

Pat enlisted in the Army after graduation. A lot of Pueblo boys did the same. It is not by accident that the town is home to four Medal of Honor recipients. In 1967, Pat was sent to Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. On March 14, 1968, he was killed in action. He was 19.

Forty years pass, Lucero says. You think you've taken your grief, packaged it up, put it away. Then the phone rings, and you realize it's been there all along, just below the surface.

People didn't forget Pat Lucero. Among those who remembered was Jim Lewis. Lewis was also Pat's friend at Pueblo's East. He, too, enlisted after high school, though Lewis became a Marine. He went to Vietnam and during the Tet offensive he met Jesse Griego (no relation). Jesse reminded Lewis of Pat, and they became fast friends. A few months after Pat died, shrapnel pierced Jesse's heart. "He died in my arms," Lewis

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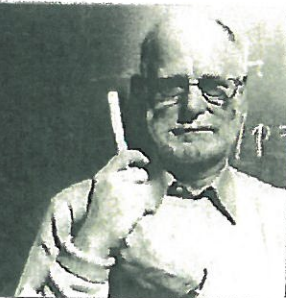
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says. "I saw the light leave his eyes."

After that, Lewis says, "there was 41 years full of anger, frustration and guilt." Through his former commander, Lewis became connected to the Seattle-based PeaceTrees nonprofit ( [peacetreesvietnam.org](http://peacetreesvietnam.org) ). The organization cleans up unexploded ordnance in Vietnam. It also builds schools and libraries. Lewis raised enough money to build a kindergarten in Griego's name.

Lewis invited Bailey to the dedication last March and while there, the men turned to each other and said, "We have to do something like this for Pat."

It's Lewis who tells me of the library project, and what I am most struck by is a man who has carried the memory of his friend for 42 years. When I mention that, Lewis says: "You met Pat and you never forgot him. I don't know how many times I wanted to visit Bill (Lucero) and (his wife) Janie and tell them of my love for Pat. How I wanted to ask them their forgiveness for surviving. I couldn't knock on their door and say, 'Guess what, it's me, Jim, and I made it and Pat didn't.'"

All this came out when Lewis and Bailey visited Pueblo last July to talk to Lucero and his family. "We talked for five hours, until almost midnight," Lucero says. "Jim couldn't stop talking and, honestly, I couldn't stop talking. I hadn't talked about it for . . . I couldn't. I've tried to do things in my life that. . . ." He struggles for composure.

"You know you're never going to bring your brother back."

Lucero told the men that his mother had given her blessing to the project. He also reminded them he was a judge, so they'd have to do all the fundraising. We want to do it, the men said, and they have raised \$14,000 of the \$20,000 PeaceTrees has budgeted for the library, which will be built in the Quang Tri province in central Vietnam.

"We had a mission and that was to help the people of Vietnam," Lewis says. "Pat didn't get to finish the mission. We're going to Vietnam and we're going to dedicate this library to Pat, so he, too, can finish his mission."

After Bailey and Lewis visited the Lucero family, Bill Lucero and his mother had their own idea: a Mass for the East High School boys who died in Vietnam. It was a beautiful service, Lucero tells me. Two hundred people showed up. Family members carried photos of their sons down the main aisle of the church. The high school ROTC students lay yellow roses in front of each picture. But what he remembers most are the soldiers who came home, men in their 60s now, who stood alone before the photos and offered a slow, sharp salute.

Pat was not forgotten, Lucero says. None of them were.

*Tina Griego writes Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Reach her at 303-954-2699 or*

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Dynamics

While council has been narrowly divided — and with a slight majority against — retail pot stores in the city, they have been moving fast-forward to get regulations in place for wholesale pot businesses, such as growers, product makers and testing companies.

Dan Molello, a real estate agent for Jones-Healy, told the city's Planning & Zoning Commission last week that over recent months, he's received "hundreds" of calls from interested pot business owners or investors inquiring about locating grow operations and product-making businesses here.

In other action Monday night, council agreed to name the new East Side library after Patrick A. Lucero, a 1966 East High School graduate who died in combat in Vietnam in 1968.

Lucero was nominated to a selection committee that included District Attorney Jeff Chostner.

Chostner told council that Lucero showed a commitment to his fellow students at East High while just a teenager and that he volunteered for service in the Army.

There was one objection to the choice of Lucero's name, and that came from Doug Ohmans, an East Side resident who questioned whether the naming committee acted fairly.

The new library will be located at Seventh and Monument streets.

[proper@chieftain.com](mailto:proper@chieftain.com)

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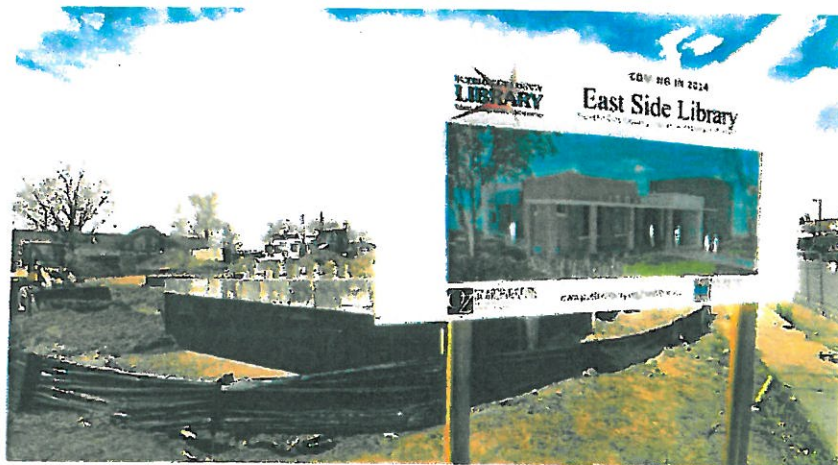
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## Never to be forgotten

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BY PETER ROPER THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Published: April 27, 2014; Last modified: April 27, 2014 04:00AM

In probably the last photograph ever taken of Pat Lucero, the young Army paratrooper held Vietnamese orphans in his lap, a pained smile on his face.

"I remember that letter and that photo clearly," Judge William Lucero recalled last week about his younger brother. "Pat was angry that so many children were being orphaned by the war. He always had a way with kids."

Patrick A. Lucero, East High School class of 1966, voluntarily joined the Army after graduation and spent much of 1967 in Vietnam as part of the 173rd Airborne

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### SLIDESHOWS

Division. A former Eagle football player and wrestler, Lucero had nearly finished his yearlong combat tour when he was killed on March 14, 1968, in Ba Long Province.

"The guy walking point had been wounded and Pat had taken his place when he was killed," his brother said.

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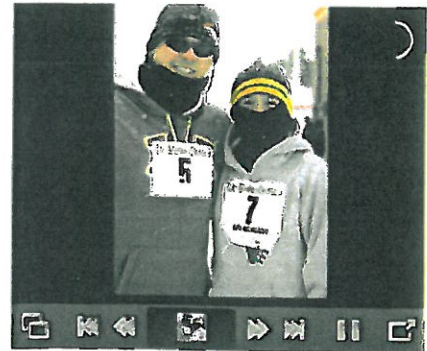


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## Naming a library

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Published: May 1, 2014; Last modified: May 1, 2014 05:00AM

PATRICK LUCERO, an East Side native who was a casualty of the Vietnam War, is gone but not forgotten. His all-too-brief life and his patriotic service to this country will now be remembered for generations to come, thanks to a decision to name a new Pueblo Public Library branch in his honor.

Construction of the new Patrick A. Lucero branch library, at Seventh and Monument streets on the East Side of Pueblo, should be completed in November.

The hometown hero is deserving of the honor of having Pueblo's newest public library facility named after him.

Mr. Lucero, East High School class of 1966, voluntarily joined the Army after graduation and spent much of 1967 in Vietnam. The 19-year-old man had nearly finished his

yearlong combat tour when he was killed on March 14, 1968, in Ba Long Province.

In its resolution selecting Patrick A. Lucero for the library building's name, City Council indicated the fallen hero was the obvious choice for the honor.

"Patrick Arnold Lucero's life is symbolic of values emblematic of Pueblo, including our community's connection to veterans, an emphasis on education, particularly involving international relations, compassion and forgiveness, and a hero who gave his life for his country," the council's resolution reads.

Interestingly, Patrick Lucero's name also is attached to a library and community center recently constructed in Ba Long Province in Vietnam. Now Mr. Lucero's hometown — Pueblo — is forever linked with the place where our hero spent his final moments on Earth.

We applaud the library naming committee for their selection and hope the Lucero family takes some comfort in knowing that their loved one's name and his story will live on.

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