

## ***“Between every two pines is a doorway to a new world.” - John Muir***

The Gifted Tree welcomes you to the virtual world of finding your tree planting location. As you know, someone has planted a gift tree in honor of you or someone you love. Your tree has been or will be planted near the city of Pleiku, Gia Lai province in the country's central highlands. Despite being well known for its vibrant green pastures and thick tropical jungles, Vietnam has suffered from deforestation, in part caused by the defoliants used by the U.S. during the Vietnam War, and by a rapidly growing population.

Before the war, Vietnam had about 40% tree coverage. By the end that number was a mere 14%, but thanks to renewed efforts by the Vietnamese government the country's tree coverage is returning to pre-war levels. The tree species planted were *Dipterocarpus Alatus* and *Hopea Adorata*, each of which have pretty unique and interesting stories. *Dipterocarpus Alatus* is commonly known as a "resin tree" because it can be tapped for resin and used as a lacquer for wood products. Its bark is also used in traditional medicine, and it can be combined with beeswax to treat wounds. This is also a good pioneer species for restoring deforested landscapes. *Hopea Adorata* is a very hearty tree that is native to parts of Asia as well as is associated with a lot of Asian folklore.

Along with helping to regulate the local climate, these trees will play an important role in retaining groundwater, reducing erosion, improving overall soil health in the area they are planted and protect agricultural ecosystems and industrial plants such as tea, coffee, and pepper. The direct benefits to biodiversity will also help the conservation of native species in the forest ecosystem by creating habitats for birds, squirrels, and forest chickens.

View the general area of your planting by clicking on the following link: <https://binged.it/3bTZOPy>. Once connected to the map, feel free to zoom in and out to get a feel of the general planting area as well as its location in the Vietnam and the world. Please understand that this is the general area of your tree planting. Your tree is planted among thousands of other gift trees and there is no plaque designating your gift tree.



Enjoy your gifted tree and know that it is making a monumental difference for the earth and opening a new doorway to the world for future generations. If you have any questions, please view our contact information at: [www.thegiftedtree.com/contact-us/](http://www.thegiftedtree.com/contact-us/). If you would like to plant a tree for someone else, please visit our website at [www.TheGiftedTree.com](http://www.TheGiftedTree.com).

