

Update on: SOS Children's Village Viet Tri

The radiant sunshine illuminates the SOS Children's Village Viet Tri where I have experienced a feast of flower colours. Over the years you show the seeds of childhood dreams for many generations of children who have grown up from this wonderland. With all my heart I hope the following story about Huy Khanh will take you to the kaleidoscope of childhood days.

'Where a miracle writes fairy tale



Huy Khanh (red T-shirt, second from left), his siblings and mother Ngoc

I came to the SOS Children's Village after the loss of my mother. Like a miracle, the moment I stepped into the Peach Flower family, uncle Hai-the village director introduced, 'This is mother Ngoc, your mother!'. I mumbled 'Hello mum Ngoc!' while she embraced me warmly. She was a friendly woman. Oh, how wonderful! The way mum Ngoc's eyes looked at me was particularly as lovely as natural mum Phuong. I shyly held her hands and obediently followed her to my room.

Little angels in the cosy nest

Nearly ten siblings made me welcome at the door as soon as I arrived. Younger siblings Anh and Tan run towards me and said happily, 'It is a pleasure to welcome you to our home.' I was filled with happiness as I was welcomed as a brother whom they did not see for a long time. Big sisters Huong, Ha, Thu, Lan Anh and big brothers Nam and Nhat were friendly. They were all as cute as little angels.

After school, my siblings and I romped playfully around the village ground together to catch up dragonflies, grasshoppers and crickets. Big brother Nhat, small but strong and agile was the person who always caught a lot of crickets. I could remember the afternoon which my siblings made a kite together. After finishing, we had a race to the playground to fly it in the scorching heat of the summer afternoon. The iced fruit juices serviced tenderly by mum Ngoc made our kite fly higher.

A kind-hearted fairy

Late afternoon, mum Ngoc was seen picking up vegetables in our kitchen garden or preparing dinner while she had a talk with each and every my sibling about lessons in class. Every evening, she tutored my younger siblings Anh and Tan in their writing practice and gave extra teaching in Mathematics for brother Nhat and me. She was worried when we went to bed late. She did not forget to check our bedrooms whether they were cool in summer or warm in winter.

Growing up a little bit, sometimes the stubbornness of the teenage like big brother Nhat and me was likely to upset her, but she never complained about this. Sometimes, I wondered myself what is behind of the strength, motivation and dedication of this small woman. Then my big siblings Huong, Ha, Lan Anh, Nam and Nhat passed successfully the university entrance examinations. When seeing her eyes filled with hopes, I came to realize that our success are all her happiness and motivation.



Huy Khanh (first from right) is flying a kite with his siblings

The fairy tale of my life



Huy Khanh is doing home assignments while his mother Ngoc gives him a cup of water

I suffers from hemophilia. I could not remember the number of times that I was hospitalized in the intensive care. A few times, I wanted to give up everything. Mum Ngoc was always on my side and consoled, 'Be strong, my darling son! You must overcome all difficulties. I am sure you will success and can help people.'

I love reading in my free time, everywhere – at home, at school and even at hospital. I would like to write down the things I have experienced and my private thoughts. I have won many prizes such as incentive prize for the article 'How to protect the water recourses in Viet Tri', second prize for the topics 'Researching and protecting alluvium of the Red River'

and 'Enhancing the quality of population'. Besides, I have been rewarded in contests for History and Application of Academic Disciplines. I have sustained the title 'Excellent Student' for twelve consecutive years and gained scholarships. I wish these achievements as my spiritual gifts would be given to my loving mum Ngoc.

I am in the twelfth grade now. Because of my excellent results, exceptionally, I am accepted to finish the general education without doing the graduation examination. I will take the university entrance examination. I wish to enter the Hanoi Law University. My heartfelt thanks go to the sponsors for all their help. They have given my sibilings Huong, Ha, Thu, Lan Anh, Nam, Nhat and me a cosy nest where together we write a miracle for our fairy tale.'

I cannot find the words to thank you enough. I am deeply indebted to you for your great interest and help. I hope to enjoy your continued help in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Nguyễn Thị Hương Lan
National Sponsorship Co-ordinator