

9/11

Ten years ago, America was changed forever when four planes were hijacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001. Although this tragedy remains in our hearts, America has stood as one to cope with the incident of the past.



9/11 Memorial in Panama City

Even though a decade has passed since the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001, Americans still have the incident burned into their memory. Nearly 3,000 people died that day as both victims and heroes.

It was 8:45 a.m. when the first plane crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. The impact instantly killed hundreds and stranded those on the upper floors. Evacuation of the building began as cameras began televising what was believed to be a freak accident when a second plane hit the south tower of the World Trade Center near the 60th floor.

An hour later, American Airlines Flight 77 hurtled into the west side of the Pentagon military headquarters. The ravaging inferno that ensued caused part of the concrete structure to crumple, killing 125 military personnel and civilians and the 64 people aboard the airliner.

Due to a flight delay, the passengers on the fourth plane heard about the attacks in New York and Washington D.C. via cellphone. Realizing that they would not return, both the passengers and flight attendants revolted against the hijackers and crashed the plane in a rural field in Pennsylvania at 10:10 a.m. No one survived. The plane's target was rumored to be the White House, but no one knows for sure.

The United States was attacked by Islamic terrorists who believed that America was too arrogant. They, in the name of Allah (God), devastated the country as a form of punishment.

The effects of this horrific tragedy are global. Since 9/11, America has been in a war with the Middle Eastern countries to overthrow the Taliban and al-Qaeda for this past decade. The Taliban was removed from power in Afghanistan within two months, but Osama Bin Laden, the mastermind behind the 9/11 attacks, remained at large until May 2 of this year when U.S. forces found and killed him in Pakistan. This war has devastated our economy and inflamed prejudice against the Muslim community. As Americans and citizens of the world, we sincerely hope such acts will never be repeated.

By Jennifer Pierce
Copy Editor

September 11, 2011 marked the tenth anniversary of the fateful day that affected all of America. Many people honored that day by holding remembrance ceremonies as we paid tribute to those who died on 9/11.

When the two planes crashed into the World Trade Center, most workers in the building were killed. However, some managed to escape by chance because of a delay. Jen Daly, a former soccer star at Masconomet Regional and Cornell University, and Howard Lutnick, CEO of a financial services firm, were both running late that day.

Daly had some dry cleaning she needed to drop off before she went to work. This errand kept her from getting to work at her usual time, which saved her life.

Even though a decade has passed since this tragic incident, she still struggles to cope with the loss of her friends.

"I still do wonder, 'Why me?' Why did I survive? Why did Stacey die? Why did her family have to endure what they had to endure?" Daly said in an Eagle Tribune article.

CEO Howard Lutnick was also delayed getting to his office because he had to bring his son to kindergarten. By the time he got there, the tower had already fallen. Though the financial services firm was impacted the most, those still alive decided to rebuild the company.

Lutnick shows his love for his employees loss during 9/11 by donating millions of dollars from the firm's profit to their families and covering their health care costs.

"The best way to show someone you love them is to care for the people they love," Lutnick said in an Associated Press article.

Although the tragedy of 9/11 still affects people daily, the ones they have lost will remain in their hearts forever.

By Deborah Chen
Staff Writer



Tribute in Light



Soldier in riverfront walking in Jersey City across Downtown Manhattan



9/11 Memorial in Boston

photo courtesy of:
-conservationthinkers.net
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