



1  
00:00:06,936 --> 00:00:12,276  
On 9/11 2001 I was working  
at the Kennedy Space Center.

2  
00:00:12,276 --> 00:00:14,766  
I was actually the  
executive director

3  
00:00:14,766 --> 00:00:17,206  
of the Cape Canaveral  
Spaceport Management Office,

4  
00:00:17,726 --> 00:00:22,736  
and on that day which I believe  
was a Monday, we were driving

5  
00:00:22,856 --> 00:00:24,816  
from the Kennedy Space  
Center to Vero Beach,

6  
00:00:24,986 --> 00:00:26,816  
Florida for our annual off-site.

7  
00:00:27,946 --> 00:00:31,776  
We were driving down on a bus  
and all of the senior managers

8  
00:00:31,816 --> 00:00:34,906  
from Kennedy were on that bus  
and there were several TV's on.

9  
00:00:35,806 --> 00:00:39,576  
And I recall that partway  
down to Vero Beach, Dave King,

10  
00:00:40,076 --> 00:00:43,916  
who was the director of shuttle  
processing, told a group of us

11

00:00:44,326 --> 00:00:47,626  
that CNN was reporting that  
an airplane had crashed

12  
00:00:47,976 --> 00:00:51,366  
into the World Trade  
Center in New York City.

13  
00:00:52,726 --> 00:00:55,676  
I think pretty much all  
of us figured it was a,

14  
00:00:55,866 --> 00:00:58,246  
similar to airplane accidents,

15  
00:00:58,286 --> 00:01:00,666  
you know private airplane  
accidents, that had occurred

16  
00:01:01,176 --> 00:01:04,126  
over the years and  
we didn't consider

17  
00:01:04,766 --> 00:01:06,286  
that there was anything  
unusual going on.

18  
00:01:07,346 --> 00:01:11,426  
But then very shortly  
thereafter we heard

19  
00:01:11,426 --> 00:01:16,136  
of the second airplane crashing  
into the World Trade Center,

20  
00:01:16,686 --> 00:01:19,496  
and then we saw the images  
on the television which were,

21  
00:01:19,496 --> 00:01:22,576

you know, just pretty horrific.

22

00:01:23,316 --> 00:01:25,836

And we knew something different was going on in the world.

23

00:01:25,836 --> 00:01:29,216

And you know the events of that day were fairly chaotic

24

00:01:29,466 --> 00:01:31,276

because we had the two planes flying

25

00:01:31,376 --> 00:01:34,356

into the World Trade Center and then an airplane flying

26

00:01:34,486 --> 00:01:36,916

into the Pentagon, and then there was a report

27

00:01:36,916 --> 00:01:39,626

of an airplane crashing in Pennsylvania.

28

00:01:40,226 --> 00:01:42,916

So we knew something was going on in the world,

29

00:01:43,016 --> 00:01:44,976

probably not a good thing.

30

00:01:45,046 --> 00:01:48,276

We continued our drive down to Vero Beach,

31

00:01:48,726 --> 00:01:51,726

and when we arrived there we, collectively made a decision

32

00:01:52,146 --> 00:01:55,796  
to meet and have lunch and  
then had a conversation

33

00:01:55,796 --> 00:01:58,546  
about what we were gonna do  
from that point point forward.

34

00:01:59,796 --> 00:02:02,786  
We all agreed that given the  
uncertainty of what was going

35

00:02:02,856 --> 00:02:04,686  
on in the world that being away

36

00:02:04,686 --> 00:02:07,936  
from the center was  
not a good decision,

37

00:02:08,386 --> 00:02:10,496  
and so we collectively  
agreed to pack our things

38

00:02:10,796 --> 00:02:15,976  
and to return to Kennedy.

39

00:02:16,146 --> 00:02:17,936  
You know I can say there  
wasn't a whole lot of talking

40

00:02:17,936 --> 00:02:20,966  
in the bus on the way back  
and over the next few days,

41

00:02:21,596 --> 00:02:25,876  
you know, as these events  
unfolded, I found it difficult

42

00:02:25,876 --> 00:02:28,626  
at times to sleep and I  
would find myself waking

43

00:02:28,756 --> 00:02:30,986  
up in the middle of the night  
and turning on the television

44

00:02:31,576 --> 00:02:36,196  
and seeing people, you know  
family members, loved ones,

45

00:02:37,526 --> 00:02:43,276  
friends with pictures, you  
know, basically asking for help

46

00:02:43,556 --> 00:02:45,866  
to locate people that  
might've been involved

47

00:02:46,026 --> 00:02:47,386  
in the World Trade  
Center tragedy.

48

00:02:48,186 --> 00:02:52,196  
So, I you know would say  
that there are life events

49

00:02:52,196 --> 00:02:53,836  
that occur in everybody's life.

50

00:02:53,836 --> 00:02:57,566  
I can remember the day  
John F. Kennedy was killed.

51

00:02:58,126 --> 00:03:00,236  
I can remember the day of  
the Challenger accident,

52

00:03:00,666 --> 00:03:05,936

and I can clearly remember  
the day of 9-11-2001 as a day

53

00:03:05,936 --> 00:03:11,426  
that will ever be forever  
be etched in my mind.

54

00:03:14,376 --> 00:03:17,076  
Okay, September 11th, 2001.

55

00:03:17,796 --> 00:03:18,926  
I was at work that day.

56

00:03:19,236 --> 00:03:21,436  
We were working in building 60

57

00:03:21,436 --> 00:03:23,746  
and we were having  
a project meeting

58

00:03:23,916 --> 00:03:29,456  
and I remember a woman comin'  
in saying, with a look of shock

59

00:03:29,456 --> 00:03:33,146  
on her face telling us  
that an airplane had flown

60

00:03:33,146 --> 00:03:34,466  
into the World Trade Center.

61

00:03:35,306 --> 00:03:38,096  
Our, we were actually working  
aviation safety at the time

62

00:03:38,096 --> 00:03:42,086  
so we thought it was an  
accident, but she didn't leave.

63

00:03:42,086 --> 00:03:44,756

She, she she went on  
to say that you need

64

00:03:44,756 --> 00:03:46,546

to come and look at this.

65

00:03:47,116 --> 00:03:50,426

And the library was at, was in  
the same building at that time

66

00:03:50,426 --> 00:03:53,586

and we walked down to the  
library and they had a TV there

67

00:03:54,586 --> 00:03:56,196

and we saw what what  
was happening.

68

00:03:56,886 --> 00:03:59,756

And at that time I also  
looked out the window

69

00:03:59,756 --> 00:04:02,036

and the cars were  
starting to line up.

70

00:04:02,526 --> 00:04:06,466

Too many people were worried  
and starting to leave work.

71

00:04:07,706 --> 00:04:09,466

I went back to my cubicle

72

00:04:09,466 --> 00:04:11,446

and tried calling my wife,  
couldn't get through.

73

00:04:12,396 --> 00:04:15,096

Tried the cell phone, couldn't

get through there either,

74

00:04:16,066 --> 00:04:20,606

so I made the decision at  
that time to just leave.

75

00:04:21,956 --> 00:04:24,826

So I remember the  
traffic being backed

76

00:04:24,826 --> 00:04:27,596

up all the way to, down 71.

77

00:04:27,596 --> 00:04:30,586

It was a very eerie feeling.

78

00:04:31,496 --> 00:04:34,186

Had the radio on  
and the coverage,

79

00:04:34,296 --> 00:04:35,276

listening to the coverage.

80

00:04:36,046 --> 00:04:38,476

And I remember them talking  
about an airplane being

81

00:04:38,536 --> 00:04:43,386

over the Cleveland area so  
the next thought that went

82

00:04:43,386 --> 00:04:45,156

through my mind is,  
you know, the family

83

00:04:45,156 --> 00:04:48,106

and how things are back at home.

84

00:04:48,456 --> 00:04:52,116

So anyway I got home  
okay, everybody was fine.

85

00:04:52,206 --> 00:04:57,536

We just ended up watching the  
coverage the rest of the day.

86

00:04:57,706 --> 00:04:59,086

So what did all this mean to me?

87

00:04:59,306 --> 00:05:03,286

It just showed how  
vulnerable we really are

88

00:05:03,886 --> 00:05:06,946

and what's really  
important in life.

89

00:05:08,066 --> 00:05:12,436

And I will have that with  
me 'til the day I die.

90

00:05:16,666 --> 00:05:17,786

My name's John Kaminski.

91

00:05:17,786 --> 00:05:21,446

I work in the CFO's Office  
and on September 11th,

92

00:05:21,876 --> 00:05:27,176

2001 I was at my desk working  
but I was listening to the radio

93

00:05:28,586 --> 00:05:32,016

and I heard that that some, that  
a plane had hit the World Trade,

94

00:05:32,306 --> 00:05:35,866

Trade Center in New  
York City and, you know,

95

00:05:36,626 --> 00:05:40,126

the people on the radio were  
like in shock and so I went

96

00:05:40,126 --> 00:05:43,286

out into the hall and asked, you  
know, asked some other people

97

00:05:43,286 --> 00:05:44,796

if they heard anything  
and no one did,

98

00:05:44,796 --> 00:05:47,396

so we went down to one  
supervisor's office,

99

00:05:47,396 --> 00:05:51,936

there was a television in  
that room and we turned it on

100

00:05:52,006 --> 00:05:55,456

and it was, we were all just  
devastated and you know,

101

00:05:57,026 --> 00:05:59,966

the talk goin' around the room,  
you know, people were talkin'

102

00:05:59,966 --> 00:06:05,606

about terrorism and everything  
and it was, it was a scary time

103

00:06:05,766 --> 00:06:07,256

and no one really  
knew what to think.

104

00:06:07,766 --> 00:06:11,456

So it, what did it mean to me?

105  
00:06:12,236 --> 00:06:14,586  
I don't know.

106  
00:06:14,666 --> 00:06:16,086  
It was humbling I guess.

107  
00:06:18,216 --> 00:06:22,596  
I'm Julie Scheniman and I  
work in the office of the CFO.

108  
00:06:23,106 --> 00:06:26,216  
On 9/11 I was in Huntsville,  
Alabama with a large group

109  
00:06:26,216 --> 00:06:29,536  
of people implementing a  
new SAP accounting system.

110  
00:06:29,936 --> 00:06:31,766  
I had my nanny and  
my daughter along

111  
00:06:31,766 --> 00:06:34,046  
with me 'cause I was supposed to  
be there for an extended time.

112  
00:06:34,736 --> 00:06:36,396  
I remember getting up  
that morning and going

113  
00:06:36,396 --> 00:06:39,876  
down for breakfast at the  
hotel and watching the TV

114  
00:06:39,876 --> 00:06:42,036  
and realizing that the  
first tower had been hit

115  
00:06:42,036 --> 00:06:42,796

and wondering, you know

116

00:06:42,796 --> 00:06:45,206

and everyone was wondering  
what was going on and everyone

117

00:06:45,206 --> 00:06:46,076

in the room was anxious.

118

00:06:46,446 --> 00:06:48,076

And I remember sitting  
there watching the TV

119

00:06:48,076 --> 00:06:51,596

as the second plane hit the  
tower and everyone there

120

00:06:51,596 --> 00:06:53,546

in the room instantly  
that there was more to it

121

00:06:53,546 --> 00:06:54,546

than just an accident.

122

00:06:55,686 --> 00:06:57,716

So the group got together  
and figured we might

123

00:06:57,716 --> 00:06:58,726

as well go into Marshall.

124

00:06:59,216 --> 00:07:01,926

Hopefully they would know more  
than we would know and help us

125

00:07:02,006 --> 00:07:03,436

with instructions on  
what we should do.

126

00:07:04,286 --> 00:07:06,906

We did that and they sent  
us back to our hotel rooms

127

00:07:07,326 --> 00:07:08,906

and said wait for  
further instructions.

128

00:07:08,906 --> 00:07:11,806

Of course we all got together  
that night and, you know,

129

00:07:12,266 --> 00:07:15,756

tried to contact our families  
and make sure everyone was okay.

130

00:07:15,986 --> 00:07:19,166

The next morning at Marshall,  
they called us in and told us

131

00:07:19,166 --> 00:07:20,566

that they had arranged  
for rental cars,

132

00:07:20,566 --> 00:07:23,356

that we should all go  
get one and go home,

133

00:07:23,356 --> 00:07:24,996

and that's exactly  
what I wanted to do.

134

00:07:24,996 --> 00:07:27,846

I wanted to get my baby, I  
wanted to go find my husband,

135

00:07:27,846 --> 00:07:30,626

and get together and with the  
rest of the country figure

136

00:07:30,626 --> 00:07:32,626

out what was going on and  
where we go from here.

137

00:07:33,176 --> 00:07:39,386

So 9/11 was a crazy day and  
that's what I was doing on 9/11.

138

00:07:40,536 --> 00:07:43,506

Hi I'm Vicki Hagerman and  
I work in the CFO's office,

139

00:07:44,356 --> 00:07:48,646

and on September 11th 20- stop.

140

00:07:48,706 --> 00:07:51,336

And on September 11th I  
actually was in Huntsville,

141

00:07:51,476 --> 00:07:53,166

Alabama working on a project.

142

00:07:53,996 --> 00:07:55,206

My family was separated.

143

00:07:55,326 --> 00:07:57,996

My kids were in college and my  
husband was at home and the,

144

00:07:58,166 --> 00:08:01,876

my first first thoughts were,  
I want my family together.

145

00:08:03,186 --> 00:08:06,526

We all gathered around a TV set  
there in Huntsville, Alabama

146

00:08:06,656 --> 00:08:09,816

and looked around and  
almost everyone had tears

147

00:08:09,876 --> 00:08:10,396  
in their eyes.

148

00:08:11,236 --> 00:08:15,146  
The project wasn't important at  
that time but it was important

149

00:08:15,666 --> 00:08:20,706  
for our nation, so that day was  
really something I don't think

150

00:08:20,706 --> 00:08:24,116  
I'll ever forget and forget  
the emotions that my family had

151

00:08:24,116 --> 00:08:29,176  
and all of us calling and trying  
to make sure everybody was okay.

152

00:08:29,616 --> 00:08:30,916  
That's where I was at.

153

00:08:31,706 --> 00:08:33,896  
My name is Brittany Russ,  
I work in the CFO's office.

154

00:08:34,476 --> 00:08:37,586  
On September 11th, I was in  
geometry class in high school

155

00:08:38,166 --> 00:08:40,166  
and is a day that I'll  
absolutely never forget

156

00:08:40,346 --> 00:08:42,536  
because my dad was  
traveling that day,

157

00:08:43,066 --> 00:08:45,656

so we couldn't get a hold of  
him for a really long time

158

00:08:45,726 --> 00:08:49,866

because his flight was switched  
from Chicago to another city

159

00:08:49,866 --> 00:08:53,736

in Philadelphia, and we had  
no idea where he was all day.

160

00:08:54,816 --> 00:08:57,146

And you instantly are scared

161

00:08:57,276 --> 00:09:00,026

for our whole family  
and for his safety.

162

00:09:00,736 --> 00:09:02,306

And I feel terrible  
for all the people

163

00:09:02,306 --> 00:09:06,716

that lost somebody  
on September 11th.

164

00:09:07,636 --> 00:09:11,526

On 9/11 I was working at the  
time at Oglebay Norton Company

165

00:09:12,246 --> 00:09:17,416

and one of the people in our  
IT department had a television

166

00:09:17,416 --> 00:09:23,096

in their office and  
when it started we tuned

167

00:09:23,136 --> 00:09:25,486

into the television  
and everybody,

168  
00:09:25,666 --> 00:09:29,236  
everybody was fascinated  
by the the building on fire

169  
00:09:29,506 --> 00:09:31,636  
and in horror, and  
then when the,

170  
00:09:31,886 --> 00:09:37,226  
when the buildings collapsed we  
ended up bein' sent home early.

171  
00:09:37,456 --> 00:09:40,976  
The meaning to me  
was the realization

172  
00:09:40,976 --> 00:09:43,916  
that America wasn't  
immune from attacks,

173  
00:09:45,166 --> 00:09:49,346  
and it really hasn't  
been the same since.

174  
00:09:51,446 --> 00:09:52,536  
Hi, I'm Rachael Settlemyer.

175  
00:09:52,876 --> 00:09:57,516  
I work for Booz Allen  
Hamilton in the CFO office.

176  
00:09:57,606 --> 00:10:01,216  
9/11 I actually was working at  
a different company for a bank

177  
00:10:01,856 --> 00:10:03,466  
and when anyone goes

into a bank,

178

00:10:03,646 --> 00:10:05,876

we really don't have  
much in- insight

179

00:10:05,986 --> 00:10:08,346

into the outside world  
during normal banking hours,

180

00:10:09,036 --> 00:10:12,626

so I never knew what was going  
on until a customer came in

181

00:10:12,906 --> 00:10:15,356

and they said, have you  
guys listened to the news

182

00:10:15,356 --> 00:10:18,446

or seen anything on the TV  
or anything and we said no,

183

00:10:18,446 --> 00:10:19,286

what're you talking about.

184

00:10:19,286 --> 00:10:22,536

And so from that point  
on we turned on the radio

185

00:10:22,576 --> 00:10:24,766

and we started listening  
to what was going on

186

00:10:24,966 --> 00:10:27,856

and everyone just sorta  
stopped what they were doing

187

00:10:28,006 --> 00:10:31,456

and you know was just shocked  
by what was taking place.

188

00:10:32,696 --> 00:10:33,916

None of us were sent home.

189

00:10:34,336 --> 00:10:39,016

We had to stay where we were, so  
we just had to go about our day

190

00:10:39,296 --> 00:10:45,456

and everyone started calling  
their loved ones making sure

191

00:10:46,646 --> 00:10:51,096

that everybody knew  
what was going on

192

00:10:51,376 --> 00:10:55,476

and that people were watching it

193

00:10:55,726 --> 00:10:58,016

and seeing what was  
actually happening.

194

00:10:58,046 --> 00:10:59,576

So to me 9/11, even though  
I didn't know it was going

195

00:10:59,606 --> 00:11:00,626

on right then and there,  
looking back at it,

196

00:11:00,656 --> 00:11:01,886

it's something I think that  
will make history books

197

00:11:01,916 --> 00:11:03,416

for you know kids that you know  
are my age are gonna be reading

198

00:11:03,446 --> 00:11:04,196  
about it in in history books.

199  
00:11:04,226 --> 00:11:04,976  
So, that's what it means to me.

200  
00:11:06,096 --> 00:11:07,726  
Hi, this is Carolyn Massas.

201  
00:11:07,916 --> 00:11:09,656  
I work for BAC.

202  
00:11:11,506 --> 00:11:13,306  
Where I was in September, 11th,

203  
00:11:13,306 --> 00:11:18,016  
I was in Code Q and  
what was I doing?

204  
00:11:18,376 --> 00:11:25,036  
I was working, but I do recall  
having a small camera, or a TV,

205  
00:11:25,426 --> 00:11:30,586  
and I remember seeing  
the newscast go on and

206  
00:11:31,116 --> 00:11:34,386  
and seeing the second  
airplane hit the second towers.

207  
00:11:35,106 --> 00:11:38,376  
It was like a scene  
out of a movie for me

208  
00:11:38,856 --> 00:11:42,076  
and it didn't really touch home

209  
00:11:42,286 --> 00:11:45,346

until I saw the tower  
fall afterwards.

210  
00:11:45,986 --> 00:11:50,796  
And it was very tou- it  
was overwhelming for me

211  
00:11:50,796 --> 00:11:51,946  
to see something like that.

212  
00:11:52,486 --> 00:11:54,636  
What does it mean to you?

213  
00:11:57,256 --> 00:11:59,526  
That we are not un-,  
invulnerable

214  
00:11:59,896 --> 00:12:01,386  
to what might happen in  
the terrorist attacks

215  
00:12:02,076 --> 00:12:06,926  
and hopefully now that we have  
these new safeguards in place,

216  
00:12:07,596 --> 00:12:10,656  
something will be- we'll be  
better prepared for something

217  
00:12:10,656 --> 00:12:13,286  
like this in the future.

218  
00:12:13,536 --> 00:12:13,976  
Perfect.

219  
00:12:14,536 --> 00:12:15,016  
Where were you?

220  
00:12:15,016 --> 00:12:17,666

September 11th I was  
home on vacation.

221  
00:12:17,666 --> 00:12:20,956  
My spouse was in the  
military so we were relaxin'.

222  
00:12:22,366 --> 00:12:25,056  
And what were you doing?

223  
00:12:25,656 --> 00:12:27,346  
Spending time with my  
family and friends.

224  
00:12:28,596 --> 00:12:31,826  
And what did it mean to you?

225  
00:12:32,426 --> 00:12:35,056  
September 11th meant  
a lot to me.

226  
00:12:35,166 --> 00:12:39,016  
Due to the incident, my husband  
was called back and sent to war,

227  
00:12:39,266 --> 00:12:41,226  
so it definitely  
meant a lot to me.

228  
00:12:41,226 --> 00:12:43,746  
I had a family member  
in the Twin Towers

229  
00:12:43,816 --> 00:12:47,026  
when the Twin Towers was hit so  
thankfully he made it out safe.

230  
00:12:47,026 --> 00:12:47,846  
Thank you God.

231  
00:12:48,026 --> 00:12:52,886  
So it definitely  
meant a lot to me.

232  
00:12:53,046 --> 00:12:55,266  
Orlando, where were  
you on September 11th?

233  
00:12:56,516 --> 00:13:00,086  
Well actually when the planes  
attacked the building actually I

234  
00:13:00,086 --> 00:13:02,916  
was on my way down to, downtown.

235  
00:13:03,436 --> 00:13:05,836  
I was on my way, I was in  
charge of the CFC that year.

236  
00:13:05,906 --> 00:13:07,076  
We was on our way downtown.

237  
00:13:07,076 --> 00:13:10,196  
We heard a building had, a  
airplane had hit a building

238  
00:13:10,196 --> 00:13:12,886  
but we had no idea it  
was to that magnitude.

239  
00:13:12,886 --> 00:13:14,986  
I remember it was a  
Tuesday, about 10:00.

240  
00:13:17,216 --> 00:13:18,216  
What do you d- what  
were you doing?

241  
00:13:18,786 --> 00:13:22,336

As I said I was on  
my way down to, in a,

242

00:13:22,336 --> 00:13:24,856  
riding in a car actually on  
my way downtown and later

243

00:13:24,856 --> 00:13:26,936  
on all the meetings,  
everything was cancelled.

244

00:13:27,206 --> 00:13:28,576  
Downtown was pretty much closed.

245

00:13:29,766 --> 00:13:32,906  
The center was closed.

246

00:13:33,396 --> 00:13:34,276  
What did it mean to you?

247

00:13:34,276 --> 00:13:36,296  
It was a shock.

248

00:13:36,876 --> 00:13:40,216  
It was a shock, shock but  
not, shock in a in a way

249

00:13:40,216 --> 00:13:41,506  
but not totally shock.

250

00:13:41,506 --> 00:13:45,136  
I've always felt you know,  
if someone has bad intentions

251

00:13:45,136 --> 00:13:48,046  
of doin' something,  
it's very easily to do,

252

00:13:48,296 --> 00:13:50,066

it's running the risk  
of getting caught.

253

00:13:50,066 --> 00:13:54,446

But it was a shock that,  
well, and and the lives lost.

254

00:13:54,866 --> 00:13:56,826

That was the most hurting  
part, the innocent people

255

00:13:56,826 --> 00:13:57,516

that lost their lives.

256

00:13:57,516 --> 00:13:59,446

That that was probably  
the most hurting part

257

00:13:59,526 --> 00:14:01,586

for me of the whole ordeal.

258

00:14:03,516 --> 00:14:06,466

I was at home getting  
ready to come to work here

259

00:14:06,466 --> 00:14:09,586

at NASA Glenn when  
the word came.

260

00:14:11,586 --> 00:14:15,556

And I was in the process  
of having, we were waiting

261

00:14:15,666 --> 00:14:19,666

or an installer to come to  
install a new range at our home.

262

00:14:19,736 --> 00:14:25,476

My husband took off that day so  
we saw the initial events occur.

263

00:14:25,936 --> 00:14:29,476

I hopped in the car and ran to work because I knew that NASA

264

00:14:29,476 --> 00:14:32,306

as a federal institution might need my help,

265

00:14:32,486 --> 00:14:34,566

so I hurriedly came to work.

266

00:14:35,046 --> 00:14:38,486

The the biggest thing for me that was kind of,

267

00:14:38,486 --> 00:14:40,826

I mean it was surreal, it was unbelievable.

268

00:14:40,826 --> 00:14:42,256

You know you just kept watching.

269

00:14:42,256 --> 00:14:45,246

You couldn't see, you just couldn't imagine it was

270

00:14:45,246 --> 00:14:45,986

actually happening.

271

00:14:46,546 --> 00:14:51,006

And the the thing that really hit for me was that I'd gone

272

00:14:51,006 --> 00:14:56,976

to spring break with four of my friends to New York City in 2000

273

00:14:57,186 --> 00:14:59,326

and we went up to the top  
of the observation deck

274

00:14:59,326 --> 00:15:03,226  
on the World Trade Center, so  
I'm sitting there looking on TV

275

00:15:03,666 --> 00:15:06,386  
at the observation  
deck that we'd gone to

276

00:15:06,816 --> 00:15:10,976  
and it was just a normal  
f- spring day for that,

277

00:15:11,356 --> 00:15:14,276  
and this was just a normal  
fall day, and and then all

278

00:15:14,276 --> 00:15:16,016  
of the sudden it wasn't  
a normal day anymore.

279

00:15:16,476 --> 00:15:19,066  
And it just, it really hit to me

280

00:15:19,496 --> 00:15:24,756  
about how a normal day anywhere  
could be an abnormal day and a

281

00:15:25,096 --> 00:15:27,386  
and a significant day, you know,

282

00:15:27,676 --> 00:15:31,086  
for for other people  
or for anything.

283

00:15:31,086 --> 00:15:34,776  
And and so it was kind of, it  
it was very jarring to think

284

00:15:34,776 --> 00:15:38,586  
about how it could've just as  
easily been a day that we were

285

00:15:38,656 --> 00:15:42,326  
up there or a day that anybody  
was up, you know, watching and

286

00:15:42,396 --> 00:15:43,816  
and looking out on  
the observation deck

287

00:15:43,816 --> 00:15:45,876  
and you think it's just a normal  
holiday, a normal vacation

288

00:15:45,876 --> 00:15:47,086  
in New York and all  
of the sudden,

289

00:15:47,736 --> 00:15:48,496  
you know something's different.

290

00:15:48,496 --> 00:15:48,586  
Okay.

291

00:15:50,716 --> 00:15:54,536  
Alrighty, where were you  
on September 11th, 2001?

292

00:15:55,116 --> 00:15:59,846  
On September 11th, 2001 I was at  
Ohio University in Athens, Ohio.

293

00:15:59,846 --> 00:16:01,506  
Alrighty. And what  
were you doing?

294

00:16:01,866 --> 00:16:04,966

I had just came to my  
dorm back from class.

295

00:16:05,036 --> 00:16:07,776

Okay. And what did  
it mean to you?

296

00:16:08,616 --> 00:16:12,716

Okay, 9/11 is a reminder for me  
that we're all interconnected

297

00:16:12,716 --> 00:16:16,556

and the loss of a life is a  
reminder of the frailty of life

298

00:16:17,036 --> 00:16:20,356

and the belonging, being united  
and what it means to belong

299

00:16:20,356 --> 00:16:23,576

to one nation that came  
together to quickly and so well

300

00:16:23,876 --> 00:16:26,006

under such tragic circumstances.

301

00:16:26,316 --> 00:16:29,846

Every 9/11 I definitely take  
a moment to remember all thos-

302

00:16:30,226 --> 00:16:32,036

those people that lost  
someone they loved

303

00:16:32,536 --> 00:16:34,976

and the ones they love.

304

00:16:35,136 --> 00:16:36,316

You know the drill.

305

00:16:37,206 --> 00:16:38,986

Here we go.

306

00:16:38,986 --> 00:16:40,806

All right we're speeding.

307

00:16:41,126 --> 00:16:44,196

John, where were you  
when 9/11 happened?

308

00:16:45,446 --> 00:16:52,906

I was working in Strongsville  
at a turf and lawn care company

309

00:16:53,096 --> 00:16:54,166

in their IT department.

310

00:16:55,276 --> 00:17:01,926

And when you heard what  
happened, what do you remember?

311

00:17:02,046 --> 00:17:08,546

A co-worker got word that a  
plane had crashed into one

312

00:17:08,546 --> 00:17:11,296

of the World Trade Center towers

313

00:17:11,426 --> 00:17:13,836

and somehow had a  
portable television

314

00:17:14,426 --> 00:17:18,816

and I remember everyone  
gathering

315

00:17:18,956 --> 00:17:23,236

around on this little

three inch square screen TV

316

00:17:23,556 --> 00:17:29,056  
and watching the other plane  
hit and just the the the chaos

317

00:17:29,136 --> 00:17:32,316  
that was going on at  
the time in the area.

318

00:17:32,616 --> 00:17:36,696  
I mean we didn't know what was  
really going on, if it was a,

319

00:17:37,376 --> 00:17:39,586  
just a plane crash,  
and then later

320

00:17:39,586 --> 00:17:43,246  
as the story developed we  
were, we were under attack.

321

00:17:44,436 --> 00:17:46,396  
What, what was your  
feeling at that point?

322

00:17:46,936 --> 00:17:49,586  
I guess it's a lot of things.

323

00:17:49,586 --> 00:17:51,446  
You're in shock.

324

00:17:52,196 --> 00:17:54,816  
The devastation that  
happened, the the suffering

325

00:17:54,816 --> 00:18:04,136  
from the people, but I remember  
suddenly feeling vulnerable.

326

00:18:04,136 --> 00:18:08,606

We had this this false sense  
of no one can touch the U.S.,

327

00:18:08,606 --> 00:18:13,306

you know we're this super  
power and in an instant

328

00:18:13,306 --> 00:18:15,976

that was all gone, and the fear

329

00:18:15,976 --> 00:18:18,626

of where else are  
attacks gonna happen.

330

00:18:19,206 --> 00:18:23,966

I just remember driving home  
and it was the quietest drive.

331

00:18:23,966 --> 00:18:28,216

There was not a not a plane,  
not a bird, not a sound anywhere

332

00:18:28,216 --> 00:18:34,646

and that was the longest 30  
minute highway drive ever.

333

00:18:34,886 --> 00:18:40,766

And then just seeing fighter  
planes you know flying every now

334

00:18:40,766 --> 00:18:41,096

and then.

335

00:18:41,096 --> 00:18:44,476

It just, it just made you,  
it was just a weird feeling.

336

00:18:44,476 --> 00:18:48,486

You know as, of course as time  
went by different emotions,

337

00:18:48,566 --> 00:18:51,606  
but on that day it was numbing.

338

00:18:52,096 --> 00:18:56,616  
That's probably the best  
way to describe the feeling.

339

00:18:56,826 --> 00:18:59,866  
What stuck out to you  
the most of, you know,

340

00:18:59,916 --> 00:19:02,916  
people coming together in the  
wake of this horrible tragedy?

341

00:19:05,316 --> 00:19:09,496  
Yeah every, Americans  
were Americans really

342

00:19:09,496 --> 00:19:10,526  
at that at that point.

343

00:19:10,526 --> 00:19:15,936  
It, it didn't matter, white,  
black, Hispanic, you know,

344

00:19:16,856 --> 00:19:22,926  
we were America and for  
that period of time a lot

345

00:19:22,926 --> 00:19:27,366  
of the other issues  
didn't seem as, as bad.

346

00:19:27,576 --> 00:19:31,956  
We had to stand together  
as as a country and

347

00:19:31,956 --> 00:19:38,106  
and you know the whole  
patriotism movement if you want

348

00:19:38,106 --> 00:19:40,576  
to call it that, was sparked.

349

00:19:42,596 --> 00:19:49,336  
So yeah I mean that's, on that  
day it was it was a wake-up call

350

00:19:50,246 --> 00:19:53,946  
to a lot of things,  
to a lot of things.

351

00:19:54,256 --> 00:19:54,756  
Here we go.

352

00:19:56,586 --> 00:19:59,496  
I was at home.

353

00:19:59,496 --> 00:20:03,286  
I was running late for work  
and just about ready to head

354

00:20:03,286 --> 00:20:04,956  
out the door and the phone rang.

355

00:20:05,496 --> 00:20:07,186  
It was my mother saying,

356

00:20:07,256 --> 00:20:08,886  
have you seen what  
happened in New York?

357

00:20:09,136 --> 00:20:10,966  
And I was like, what?

358

00:20:10,966 --> 00:20:11,836

What're you talking about?

359

00:20:12,046 --> 00:20:14,246

And she said, just  
turn on the TV.

360

00:20:14,996 --> 00:20:21,306

At the time I turned on the TV  
was just before the second plane

361

00:20:22,016 --> 00:20:27,496

hit the second tower and I was  
just absolutely in total shock

362

00:20:27,696 --> 00:20:30,716

because it became  
abundantly clear at that point

363

00:20:30,926 --> 00:20:34,836

that the United States was  
under attack which was something

364

00:20:34,836 --> 00:20:37,796

that none of us ever  
could've possibly imagined.

365

00:20:37,796 --> 00:20:40,556

And I remember at  
the time my feeling

366

00:20:40,676 --> 00:20:45,276

of of great vulnerability  
but just also kinda like,

367

00:20:46,076 --> 00:20:48,446

well what're we supposed  
to do and what's goin' on

368

00:20:48,446 --> 00:20:51,316  
and where should we go and  
what should we do and so forth,

369

00:20:51,706 --> 00:20:56,446  
and so I went out to the patio  
just to kinda like clear my head

370

00:20:56,446 --> 00:20:59,586  
and sorta try and get a grip  
on, on what we should do.

371

00:20:59,896 --> 00:21:05,336  
And I remember it being eerily  
quiet outside except for one jet

372

00:21:05,496 --> 00:21:07,946  
that was traveling westbound.

373

00:21:08,016 --> 00:21:12,306  
And it seemed, you know, kind  
of low in altitude and I just

374

00:21:12,306 --> 00:21:14,226  
through that that  
was very, very odd.

375

00:21:14,596 --> 00:21:19,036  
And ironically enough that was  
the plane that eventually turned

376

00:21:19,196 --> 00:21:22,446  
around and was heading  
back towards the capitol

377

00:21:22,446 --> 00:21:24,886  
and ultimately ended up  
going down in Pennsylvania.

378

00:21:25,506 --> 00:21:27,796

So those are my rela-  
recollections

379

00:21:27,796 --> 00:21:30,726

from what transpired  
on that day.

380

00:21:31,276 --> 00:21:36,816

And as far as what I felt, I  
felt a great sense of loss.

381

00:21:36,816 --> 00:21:38,746

I was angry.

382

00:21:39,346 --> 00:21:42,486

I wanted to know who was  
responsible, who could think

383

00:21:42,486 --> 00:21:45,486

of doing such a horrible  
thing, and then ultimately

384

00:21:45,486 --> 00:21:49,066

when the towers both  
collapsed, all I could think

385

00:21:49,066 --> 00:21:52,616

about were all my friends and  
associates that were in New York

386

00:21:52,996 --> 00:21:54,576

and wondering about  
how they were.

387

00:21:55,116 --> 00:21:57,846

And lastly, I think the  
biggest thing was is

388

00:21:58,086 --> 00:22:00,426

that I was wondering, okay,

389

00:22:01,026 --> 00:22:03,296

what's the United  
States gonna do now?

390

00:22:03,666 --> 00:22:07,576

We're a world superpower and we  
just now have been hit at some

391

00:22:07,576 --> 00:22:13,566

of our most significant  
areas of economics,

392

00:22:14,496 --> 00:22:17,266

our you know Pentagon  
has been hit.

393

00:22:17,546 --> 00:22:20,906

There's so many unknowns at this  
point, so those are the kind

394

00:22:20,906 --> 00:22:24,056

of things that were going  
through my mind at that time.

395

00:22:24,246 --> 00:22:28,756

And last but not least, I  
I was just incredibly taken

396

00:22:29,386 --> 00:22:32,436

by the overall unity of the  
American people afterwards

397

00:22:33,076 --> 00:22:36,326

to come together, to  
drop all their grievances

398

00:22:36,326 --> 00:22:40,366

and differences, come together  
in a way and unite and say,

399

00:22:40,826 --> 00:22:44,966

you may have hit us where  
it hurts, but we're not done

400

00:22:45,096 --> 00:22:48,096

by any stretch and  
we will come together

401

00:22:48,096 --> 00:22:49,916

and we will rebound from this.

402

00:22:50,306 --> 00:22:52,866

And that was something  
that gave me a great source

403

00:22:52,866 --> 00:22:53,926

of strength and comfort.

404

00:22:55,206 --> 00:22:56,636

Stand by, I'm recording.

405

00:22:57,526 --> 00:23:01,126

Okay Sheila, where were  
you when 9/11 happened?

406

00:23:02,096 --> 00:23:08,876

When 9/11 happened I was in the  
lunch room of my high school

407

00:23:09,316 --> 00:23:12,956

and one of my friends next to  
me said, oh there was a bomb

408

00:23:12,956 --> 00:23:15,046

or something at New York.

409

00:23:15,146 --> 00:23:20,106

And you know at at first

it seemed so unreal.

410

00:23:20,296 --> 00:23:26,416

And then in the library like,  
which was right next door

411

00:23:27,836 --> 00:23:33,896

to the cafeteria, they  
turned on the television

412

00:23:35,026 --> 00:23:43,706

and we actually saw the two  
planes fly into the Twin Towers.

413

00:23:44,366 --> 00:23:53,036

And what do you remember  
about that day?

414

00:23:54,476 --> 00:24:04,816

I remember that it was a lot  
of panic, a lot of confusion.

415

00:24:04,816 --> 00:24:05,716

My, people were leaving school.

416

00:24:05,716 --> 00:24:08,026

The streets were  
crowded even here

417

00:24:08,026 --> 00:24:12,086

in Cleveland it was  
a very sad day.

418

00:24:12,256 --> 00:24:14,676

I remember going to the store,

419

00:24:14,876 --> 00:24:19,346

the Western Union  
line was crowded.

420  
00:24:19,386 --> 00:24:20,766  
I remember a lot of  
people making phone calls

421  
00:24:20,796 --> 00:24:21,636  
to their loved ones,  
pay phones full,

422  
00:24:21,666 --> 00:24:22,626  
just a lot of panic  
during that day.

423  
00:24:22,656 --> 00:24:23,226  
And what were you feeling?

424  
00:24:23,256 --> 00:24:23,586  
I was scared.

425  
00:24:23,616 --> 00:24:24,786  
I didn't know what was  
going on and the fact

426  
00:24:24,816 --> 00:24:26,136  
that something had happened,  
and like a terrorist attack

427  
00:24:26,166 --> 00:24:27,216  
that close to me was  
really unbelievable.

428  
00:24:27,246 --> 00:24:28,536  
You know the shock and the  
realization hadn't set in.

429  
00:24:28,566 --> 00:24:29,226  
I just know it was unreal.

430  
00:24:29,256 --> 00:24:29,976  
And how did it make you feel?

431

00:24:30,046 --> 00:24:33,306

It made me feel unsafe  
to know that something

432

00:24:33,766 --> 00:24:36,236

of that magnitude  
can happen so close.

433

00:24:37,446 --> 00:24:41,526

And what, what sticks  
out to you as something

434

00:24:41,526 --> 00:24:47,586

that kinda gave you a sense of  
hope or, or comfort you know

435

00:24:47,706 --> 00:24:50,516

in the hours or whatever  
that followed after that?

436

00:24:50,876 --> 00:24:52,766

The firefighters gave  
me a sense of hope

437

00:24:52,766 --> 00:24:55,016

because the firefighters  
were more

438

00:24:55,156 --> 00:24:57,096

or less the heroes  
during that event.

439

00:24:57,136 --> 00:25:02,146

They stuck together, they were  
dedicated and to finding people,

440

00:25:03,126 --> 00:25:06,336

survivors, that it gave me  
a sense of hope that even

441

00:25:06,336 --> 00:25:11,586

if something happened that  
close and it's that real

442

00:25:11,666 --> 00:25:13,526

that someone would  
be there to help.

443

00:25:14,336 --> 00:25:15,906

Someone cares, you know?

444

00:25:16,286 --> 00:25:18,536

And what did you,  
what did you think

445

00:25:18,536 --> 00:25:19,636

or what feeling did you have

446

00:25:19,676 --> 00:25:21,176

when you saw the  
towers come down?

447

00:25:22,896 --> 00:25:24,456

It, unbelief.

448

00:25:24,606 --> 00:25:26,996

I I was amazed.

449

00:25:27,046 --> 00:25:28,716

It was almost like  
it wasn't real.

450

00:25:30,536 --> 00:25:30,796

Good.

451

00:25:31,166 --> 00:25:31,466

[Inaudible] after.

452

00:25:31,466 --> 00:25:33,636

Okay. So three, two.

453

00:25:35,256 --> 00:25:37,296

. . All right the,  
[inaudible] sorry.

454

00:25:37,436 --> 00:25:40,916

The day started out  
like any other day.

455

00:25:41,356 --> 00:25:44,406

I was goin' to Kent  
State University.

456

00:25:44,406 --> 00:25:47,406

I was takin' classes  
and one of my teachers

457

00:25:47,596 --> 00:25:51,766

for the class was late  
and she finally arrived

458

00:25:52,066 --> 00:25:55,886

about 10 minutes later and  
she said we're under attack,

459

00:25:57,116 --> 00:26:00,676

we don't know why, and  
everybody just has to go home.

460

00:26:01,546 --> 00:26:04,946

So when I was leaving class, you  
know everybody was in a panic,

461

00:26:05,096 --> 00:26:07,466

people were flocking towards  
the TV's trying to figure

462

00:26:07,466 --> 00:26:09,106  
out what was going on.

463  
00:26:09,266 --> 00:26:12,526  
People were very confused,  
very, you know panicky,

464  
00:26:12,566 --> 00:26:14,546  
they don't know what's  
gonna happen next.

465  
00:26:15,356 --> 00:26:19,996  
And, went home, watched the  
TV myself and I was very,

466  
00:26:20,756 --> 00:26:21,646  
you know, much disbelief.

467  
00:26:22,836 --> 00:26:23,656  
What do you remember?

468  
00:26:25,276 --> 00:26:26,036  
When they first attacked?

469  
00:26:30,606 --> 00:26:33,346  
Or y- or just from the event  
itself, what do you remember?

470  
00:26:34,126 --> 00:26:34,966  
Not very much.

471  
00:26:36,306 --> 00:26:37,756  
I mean it was just  
a lot of confusion.

472  
00:26:37,866 --> 00:26:42,706  
There was, you know y- of course  
you would call you know your

473

00:26:42,836 --> 00:26:45,846  
your family members, your  
friends and talk about it

474  
00:26:46,146 --> 00:26:48,736  
as in any kind of  
disastrous situation.

475  
00:26:48,736 --> 00:26:49,896  
You just want to  
talk to somebody.

476  
00:26:53,676 --> 00:26:55,196  
And it was, it was  
just very surreal.

477  
00:26:55,916 --> 00:26:57,686  
Do you remember anything  
about like,

478  
00:26:58,746 --> 00:27:03,496  
did it seem incredibly  
quiet like outside or like.

479  
00:27:03,896 --> 00:27:07,616  
. . It it wasn't quiet,  
it was very, very noisy.

480  
00:27:08,336 --> 00:27:10,076  
I was, you know when  
I was leaving campus,

481  
00:27:10,716 --> 00:27:14,116  
everybody was trying  
to race home.

482  
00:27:14,226 --> 00:27:15,436  
There was traffic jams.

483  
00:27:15,546 --> 00:27:20,296

There was people just pouring  
onto the streets and running

484

00:27:20,296 --> 00:27:22,706  
around and it was  
very actually, noisy.

485

00:27:23,896 --> 00:27:24,846  
And how did you feel?

486

00:27:30,326 --> 00:27:31,056  
Were you angry?

487

00:27:31,056 --> 00:27:32,986  
Mad? Sad? No, I .

488

00:27:32,986 --> 00:27:33,496  
. . Worried?

489

00:27:33,676 --> 00:27:35,276  
I really wasn't affected by it.

490

00:27:35,796 --> 00:27:37,446  
Okay. Okay.

491

00:27:37,446 --> 00:27:40,896  
I mean I, it was it's it's  
something I was just watching

492

00:27:40,926 --> 00:27:45,876  
on TV and you know just trying  
to figure out the the facts

493

00:27:46,186 --> 00:27:48,796  
to things first to get,  
you know before any kind

494

00:27:48,796 --> 00:27:49,546  
of feeling struck.

495

00:27:49,836 --> 00:27:51,336

It was more of just  
trying to understand,

496

00:27:51,336 --> 00:27:54,856

and then finally you understood  
the magnitude of everything

497

00:27:54,856 --> 00:28:01,256

and that's when it was kind of,  
you know, incredible to think

498

00:28:01,366 --> 00:28:04,426

that this kind of  
devastation happened.

499

00:28:05,626 --> 00:28:08,076

Were you struck, you know,  
being a television professional

500

00:28:08,076 --> 00:28:11,196

and everything, were you  
struck about the the reality

501

00:28:11,196 --> 00:28:13,226

of watching this  
unfold on television?

502

00:28:13,226 --> 00:28:16,276

Was that kind of like  
something that just.

503

00:28:17,576 --> 00:28:19,216

. . I think, I I think it's glad

504

00:28:19,346 --> 00:28:21,056

that it was all captured  
on television.

505

00:28:21,246 --> 00:28:28,076

I think that, you know, that's,  
I hate being so insensitive

506

00:28:28,126 --> 00:28:31,626

but it's a part of history so  
you want to capture that on TV.

507

00:28:32,916 --> 00:28:36,846

I I personally wasn't affected  
so, by anybody personally

508

00:28:37,026 --> 00:28:41,036

so I don't have a strong feeling  
other than the the human feeling

509

00:28:41,406 --> 00:28:44,496

of knowing that there  
were lives lost.

510

00:28:45,586 --> 00:28:47,726

Okay. [Inaudible]  
and I'm recording.

511

00:28:48,496 --> 00:28:51,936

Okay Susan, where were  
you when 9/11 happened?

512

00:28:52,376 --> 00:28:57,416

I was sitting in the office  
and the TV, the NASA TV was on

513

00:28:57,846 --> 00:29:00,236

and somebody came running  
in saying did you see?

514

00:29:00,266 --> 00:29:01,586

They have-- look at the TV!

515

00:29:01,976 --> 00:29:03,696

They've just bombed  
one of the towers!

516

00:29:04,776 --> 00:29:07,086

And what do you remember  
about 9/11?

517

00:29:07,666 --> 00:29:12,836

I remember being devastated,  
frightened, and then as you went

518

00:29:13,016 --> 00:29:16,466

on and you heard that they  
weren't sure what other sites

519

00:29:16,466 --> 00:29:20,306

were going to be affected,  
worried then about my children

520

00:29:21,176 --> 00:29:23,066

and what was gonna happen.

521

00:29:23,186 --> 00:29:26,346

And were you at the  
center here at that time?

522

00:29:26,346 --> 00:29:27,456

Yes I was.

523

00:29:27,456 --> 00:29:29,036

And what happened  
here at the center?

524

00:29:29,086 --> 00:29:31,736

What what was going on here at  
the center during that time?

525

00:29:31,986 --> 00:29:34,956

People-- it was one of

the few moments that I can

526

00:29:35,406 --> 00:29:38,426

that we actually had silence  
in the education department.

527

00:29:39,036 --> 00:29:41,946

Everybody was just stunned.

528

00:29:42,466 --> 00:29:44,456

We could not believe what  
we were seeing on TV.

529

00:29:44,546 --> 00:29:46,896

It was almost like you  
couldn't walk away.

530

00:29:47,806 --> 00:29:51,116

And was there any sense of  
emergency or anything like that?

531

00:29:51,116 --> 00:29:55,656

From what I understand Carol  
was saying people evacuated and

532

00:29:55,656 --> 00:29:56,496

and all this kind of stuff.

533

00:29:56,496 --> 00:29:58,966

Do you recall any  
sense of immediacy?

534

00:29:59,086 --> 00:30:03,416

Yes I do because as I mentioned  
before I think once it sunk in

535

00:30:03,416 --> 00:30:05,696

and we saw it might be  
more than one location,

536

00:30:06,456 --> 00:30:09,196

people were wondering you know  
if it hit here, would you want

537

00:30:09,196 --> 00:30:12,066

to be here or would you want  
to be with your family members?

538

00:30:12,126 --> 00:30:16,766

So I know myself, had talked  
to my supervisor and took leave

539

00:30:16,886 --> 00:30:19,686

to go home and pick up my son  
from his school and my daughter.

540

00:30:20,296 --> 00:30:23,286

And, you know, how did  
you feel at the time

541

00:30:23,286 --> 00:30:25,686

and how do you feel  
now in regards to 9/11?

542

00:30:26,596 --> 00:30:29,436

I felt just devastation  
that this could happen

543

00:30:29,436 --> 00:30:31,986

in the United States, that  
although we're prepared

544

00:30:32,136 --> 00:30:34,686

and we cover all these  
aspects, we still,

545

00:30:35,466 --> 00:30:37,216

you know it was a dire emergency

546

00:30:37,216 --> 00:30:39,396  
and people still  
didn't know what to do,

547  
00:30:39,466 --> 00:30:40,556  
how to rally for help.

548  
00:30:40,966 --> 00:30:42,056  
How do I feel today?

549  
00:30:42,606 --> 00:30:45,646  
I feel that the threat  
is still out there

550  
00:30:46,186 --> 00:30:48,656  
but we're better prepared  
and I know myself,

551  
00:30:48,656 --> 00:30:52,456  
I feel that Glenn has a better  
way of communicating to us,

552  
00:30:53,066 --> 00:30:55,636  
you know, widespread what  
to do in such a nature.

553  
00:30:55,786 --> 00:31:00,696  
And the last question is is  
what sticks out to you most

554  
00:31:00,846 --> 00:31:04,486  
about 9/11 as as far as like  
people comin' together or what,

555  
00:31:04,896 --> 00:31:08,046  
what specific things do you just  
make an immediate association

556  
00:31:08,046 --> 00:31:08,926  
with 9/11?

557

00:31:09,086 --> 00:31:10,466

I think people coming together

558

00:31:10,466 --> 00:31:12,946

and what I made the

immediate association was

559

00:31:13,096 --> 00:31:15,586

of all the heroes

that came out of

560

00:31:15,586 --> 00:31:18,986

that that actually lost their

lives to help save others

561

00:31:19,096 --> 00:31:22,166

from firemen, policemen, but

the co-workers you read about,

562

00:31:22,226 --> 00:31:24,376

people not leaving

people by themselves.

563

00:31:24,826 --> 00:31:28,146

To me that touched that human

nature that we forget about.

564

00:31:28,366 --> 00:31:31,226

We forget about that, you

know, we're human and we got

565

00:31:31,226 --> 00:31:33,596

to take care of each other.

566

00:31:35,096 --> 00:31:39,016

Well it really just

was very horrific to me

567

00:31:39,796 --> 00:31:41,866

to see people falling  
out of buildings

568

00:31:42,056 --> 00:31:45,236

and I was just really  
concerned about the families

569

00:31:45,426 --> 00:31:47,496

and the people that  
were trying to rescue.

570

00:31:47,826 --> 00:31:51,466

I just thought it was a  
horrific event and was concerned

571

00:31:51,466 --> 00:31:54,556

about repercussions for  
our future in the nation.

572

00:31:56,186 --> 00:31:59,596

September 11th, 2001 I  
was in Richmond, Virginia.

573

00:32:00,096 --> 00:32:01,086

What were you doing?

574

00:32:01,626 --> 00:32:03,956

I was dropping off  
my son at pre-school

575

00:32:03,956 --> 00:32:07,446

and I had just had my second  
kid, and I remember having her

576

00:32:07,916 --> 00:32:11,836

in an infant carrier  
walking him into pre-school.

577

00:32:11,866 --> 00:32:13,186

And what did it mean to you?

578

00:32:14,536 --> 00:32:17,396

Well when I got the news,  
I actually got the news

579

00:32:17,586 --> 00:32:22,206

from another parent who was  
from New York but also living

580

00:32:22,206 --> 00:32:23,106

in Richmond, Virginia.

581

00:32:23,626 --> 00:32:27,156

And what it meant to me at that  
time, and even still today,

582

00:32:27,526 --> 00:32:30,746

is once we found out that  
there wasn't a mistake

583

00:32:30,846 --> 00:32:35,256

but that it was intentional, is  
seeing a country come together,

584

00:32:35,646 --> 00:32:38,966

every race, every creed,  
every color, every size,

585

00:32:39,146 --> 00:32:42,436

every religious background,  
really come together

586

00:32:42,926 --> 00:32:45,196

for one common cause  
and that was

587

00:32:45,306 --> 00:32:47,096

for the freedoms of  
the United States.

588

00:32:47,556 --> 00:32:52,496

It meant that to me that day  
and it means that to me today.

589

00:32:53,386 --> 00:32:59,046

Okay, go. On September 11th,  
2001 I was sitting at my desk

590

00:32:59,046 --> 00:33:01,676

in building 500 when my  
husband called me to tell me

591

00:33:01,756 --> 00:33:04,446

that a plane had hit  
the World Trade Center.

592

00:33:05,396 --> 00:33:07,246

I went into the HR  
division office

593

00:33:07,386 --> 00:33:11,346

and notified my co-workers in  
the area and we watched the TV

594

00:33:11,346 --> 00:33:15,566

as the second plane hit the  
second tower and eventually

595

00:33:15,566 --> 00:33:16,716

as the buildings collapsed.

596

00:33:18,236 --> 00:33:20,996

I remember the announcer  
saying the U.S. is under attack

597

00:33:21,136 --> 00:33:24,546

and it sent chills  
down my spine.

598

00:33:24,786 --> 00:33:29,836

For the first time in my life,  
I felt fearful and threatened

599

00:33:30,776 --> 00:33:34,166

in my own country and  
that made me unsettled.

600

00:33:35,706 --> 00:33:40,986

On the, however, even though  
it was a a very bad experience

601

00:33:41,576 --> 00:33:46,426

and frightening, I also felt  
there were some positive things

602

00:33:46,726 --> 00:33:48,486

that came out of it.

603

00:33:48,486 --> 00:33:51,906

It generated inside of me a  
greater sense of patriotism

604

00:33:51,906 --> 00:33:54,016

and pride in being an American.

605

00:33:54,956 --> 00:34:00,326

I felt that it was, it warmed my  
heart that people came together

606

00:34:00,406 --> 00:34:05,016

as a country and a  
nation to help one another

607

00:34:05,176 --> 00:34:07,286

and to have a common purpose.

608

00:34:07,286 --> 00:34:11,796

And that's what I

remember about 9/11.

609

00:34:14,106 --> 00:34:14,876

I'll tell you.

610

00:34:14,876 --> 00:34:19,386

and all that kind of stuff.

611

00:34:19,386 --> 00:34:21,766

Oh, okay. Okay what was I  
doing on September 11th?

612

00:34:21,936 --> 00:34:28,716

I was here at NASA in building  
500 and I can remember sitting

613

00:34:28,716 --> 00:34:31,686

in a meeting and hearing about  
it and that we all gathered

614

00:34:31,686 --> 00:34:33,426

in one room and just  
being very shocked

615

00:34:33,426 --> 00:34:35,456

and then being on lockdown.

616

00:34:35,606 --> 00:34:37,076

They locked down building 500.

617

00:34:37,076 --> 00:34:39,936

And watching a lot of  
people leave the lab

618

00:34:39,936 --> 00:34:40,966

and wondering what was going on.

619

00:34:41,466 --> 00:34:44,646

Finally we were able to get out

and it took well over an hour

620

00:34:45,056 --> 00:34:47,296

and a half to get  
out of the lab.

621

00:34:47,456 --> 00:34:50,076

I think the thing that I,  
in terms of what it meant

622

00:34:50,256 --> 00:34:54,846

to me was three days later I  
had a trip to go to California

623

00:34:54,846 --> 00:34:57,016

on vacation and I actually went.

624

00:34:57,596 --> 00:34:59,506

And a lot of people thought,  
you know, why would you ever get

625

00:34:59,506 --> 00:35:03,346

on a plane three days after  
this happened and it was,

626

00:35:04,596 --> 00:35:07,626

there was only like four  
people on the plane,

627

00:35:07,626 --> 00:35:09,356

myself and three other people.

628

00:35:09,746 --> 00:35:13,056

And I think what was  
going through th- my mind

629

00:35:13,056 --> 00:35:14,196

at that time was thinking

630

00:35:14,196 --> 00:35:16,206

that so many things  
would never be the same,

631

00:35:16,716 --> 00:35:17,936

one of them which  
would be travel,

632

00:35:17,936 --> 00:35:19,706

and it never has been the same.

633

00:35:19,706 --> 00:35:21,416

I think of how easy it  
was to get on a plane

634

00:35:21,416 --> 00:35:23,596

and how hard it is now  
in terms of the security.

635

00:35:24,366 --> 00:35:26,696

And I guess the other  
thing that went

636

00:35:26,996 --> 00:35:29,886

through my mind is just thinking  
about how we take for granted

637

00:35:29,996 --> 00:35:35,396

so many things and it was  
just a kind of a wake-up call.

638

00:35:35,396 --> 00:35:38,556

I remember on that whole  
flight and thinking

639

00:35:38,556 --> 00:35:41,256

about how I was never  
afraid to fly

640

00:35:41,256 --> 00:35:43,856

and I was I was just  
nervous that whole flight.

641  
00:35:44,096 --> 00:35:45,876  
But then when I got  
there safely thinking,

642  
00:35:46,576 --> 00:35:47,906  
you know, things will be okay.

643  
00:35:48,726 --> 00:35:52,066  
They'll be different  
but they'll be okay.

644  
00:35:54,356 --> 00:36:00,056  
On September 11th, 2001  
I was in 7th grade class.

645  
00:36:00,496 --> 00:36:02,626  
Once we heard about it,  
our teachers turned it

646  
00:36:02,626 --> 00:36:04,036  
on the TV and we watched it.

647  
00:36:04,406 --> 00:36:06,836  
I remember bein' sad about  
what happened and knowing

648  
00:36:06,836 --> 00:36:08,076  
that so many people were dying

649  
00:36:08,556 --> 00:36:10,836  
and other children were  
losing their parents.

650  
00:36:11,236 --> 00:36:13,326  
I was scared for my mom  
because she worked at,

651  
00:36:13,326 --> 00:36:16,026  
for NASA at the time,  
and she called the school

652  
00:36:16,026 --> 00:36:19,486  
and she told them that they  
were all on lockdown but as soon

653  
00:36:19,486 --> 00:36:21,456  
as they were off of  
lockdown she was gonna be

654  
00:36:21,456 --> 00:36:22,066  
on her way to pick me up.

655  
00:36:22,066 --> 00:36:25,076  
About an hour and a half later  
she called back and said she was

656  
00:36:25,136 --> 00:36:28,326  
on her way, so at that  
point I was pretty happy

657  
00:36:28,546 --> 00:36:31,596  
to know she was okay.

658  
00:36:35,366 --> 00:36:40,716  
So I was on my way to work  
when, and listening to NPR

659  
00:36:41,426 --> 00:36:47,236  
when I heard news of an  
airplane hitting the tower,

660  
00:36:47,886 --> 00:36:50,816  
and I thought wow that's,  
how awful you know?

661  
00:36:50,876 --> 00:36:53,556

How could somebody just  
run right into a big tower?

662

00:36:53,556 --> 00:36:55,206

I mean what went wrong there?

663

00:36:56,276 --> 00:36:59,616

And it was pretty confusing and  
I thought, oh that's horrible.

664

00:37:00,786 --> 00:37:03,856

Well, when I got to work,  
there's a television

665

00:37:03,856 --> 00:37:10,276

in the office and I turned it  
on and Ed Hoffman from Apple

666

00:37:10,726 --> 00:37:13,976

and his deputy were visiting  
Glenn Research Center

667

00:37:13,976 --> 00:37:19,676

at the time and, I was in  
training and development

668

00:37:19,676 --> 00:37:23,386

and we had the TV on and we  
were kinda watchin' things

669

00:37:23,416 --> 00:37:25,336

as it develop- as it developed

670

00:37:25,336 --> 00:37:28,296

and actually saw the  
second plane come in and

671

00:37:29,296 --> 00:37:31,086

and hit the second tower.

672

00:37:31,916 --> 00:37:35,856

And it was obvious then that it wasn't an accident, that it was,

673

00:37:36,386 --> 00:37:38,386

you know that it was a terrorist act

674

00:37:38,546 --> 00:37:42,806

and I mean we were just basically stunned and,

675

00:37:43,456 --> 00:37:47,386

in disbelief.

676

00:37:48,396 --> 00:37:52,106

And there was lots of people, meanwhile,

677

00:37:53,416 --> 00:37:57,366

word of the the plane, the third plane being

678

00:37:57,366 --> 00:38:02,516

above Cleveland had a lot of people in the office very,

679

00:38:02,516 --> 00:38:07,886

you know very upset, very frightened, wanting to leave.

680

00:38:09,186 --> 00:38:13,046

They had people who were working at the airport that they were

681

00:38:13,046 --> 00:38:15,996

in contact with who were giving them reports

682

00:38:16,096 --> 00:38:17,856  
of this third plane.

683

00:38:18,506 --> 00:38:24,216  
And, you know it was it was just  
a very frightening time where w-

684

00:38:24,216 --> 00:38:28,366  
we all kinda came together  
as an office and tried

685

00:38:28,366 --> 00:38:29,586  
to make some sense out of it,

686

00:38:29,586 --> 00:38:31,926  
not that anyone could  
really make any sense

687

00:38:31,926 --> 00:38:33,326  
out of it at the time.

688

00:38:34,926 --> 00:38:37,976  
'Course Ed and Tony had to  
figure out how to get back

689

00:38:37,976 --> 00:38:41,766  
to Washington and we had to  
figure out how to evacuate and

690

00:38:41,836 --> 00:38:44,856  
and we did as far as, you  
know people being excused

691

00:38:44,856 --> 00:38:45,446  
and leaving.

692

00:38:46,246 --> 00:38:49,366  
And I know I just kinda wanted  
to stay there for a while.

693

00:38:52,046 --> 00:38:53,826

I wanted to stay until  
everyone was gone.

694

00:38:54,926 --> 00:38:56,716

It just made me feel  
better somehow.

695

00:38:57,186 --> 00:39:02,526

And the meaning I made of it was  
just you know sort of the end

696

00:39:02,526 --> 00:39:05,936

of innocence, you know that  
people really hated us enough

697

00:39:05,936 --> 00:39:07,496

to really do something  
like this,

698

00:39:08,396 --> 00:39:13,376

and to attack you know  
our, the World Trade Towers

699

00:39:13,446 --> 00:39:16,346

where you know they're kind  
of symbolic of our success

700

00:39:16,406 --> 00:39:21,576

as a economic nation  
and you know just the,

701

00:39:21,576 --> 00:39:24,746

I I think grief just  
that, at that time.

702

00:39:24,746 --> 00:39:28,236

Later on is when I realized that  
the world had changed forever

703

00:39:28,996 --> 00:39:30,866

and wasn't gonna  
be the same again.

704

00:39:31,536 --> 00:39:34,346

It was more like when  
we attacked Iraq.

705

00:39:34,596 --> 00:39:40,286

It was clear that we were  
going to be really engaged

706

00:39:40,286 --> 00:39:42,496

in a whole new kind of  
conflict as a nation

707

00:39:42,576 --> 00:39:45,326

for another 40, 50 years anyway.

708

00:39:45,906 --> 00:39:52,246

So that's kind of what  
happened in my life on 9/11.

709

00:39:54,066 --> 00:39:59,796

Okay, where were you on  
September 11th, 2001?

710

00:40:01,016 --> 00:40:04,776

I was pulling into GRC  
and I was parking my car.

711

00:40:06,006 --> 00:40:09,036

And as I was parking  
it, I had the radio on

712

00:40:09,036 --> 00:40:14,916

and I heard the news that  
there a plane crash into one

713

00:40:14,916 --> 00:40:19,806  
of the Twin Towers  
in New York City.

714  
00:40:20,226 --> 00:40:23,116  
Okay. You already answered  
what were you doing.

715  
00:40:23,386 --> 00:40:24,426  
What did it mean to you?

716  
00:40:26,026 --> 00:40:29,406  
It was quite devastating  
not only because it was

717  
00:40:29,456 --> 00:40:33,496  
such a tragedy that happened  
here on our homeland in America

718  
00:40:33,496 --> 00:40:38,156  
but it was also very personal  
because, you see, my siblings

719  
00:40:38,156 --> 00:40:40,946  
and I we were born in  
Manhattan, New York City

720  
00:40:41,926 --> 00:40:43,756  
and so that's our homeland.

721  
00:40:44,756 --> 00:40:47,776  
So it was even more  
so devastating to us

722  
00:40:48,216 --> 00:40:51,926  
because we had family members  
there and we needed to make sure

723  
00:40:51,926 --> 00:40:53,486  
that everyone was safe.

724

00:40:53,486 --> 00:40:57,096

And not only that, there were  
so many people that we knew

725

00:40:57,446 --> 00:41:01,426

that were friends  
of ours and we lost.

726

00:41:02,166 --> 00:41:08,206

However, i- it was just  
like so surreal to us.

727

00:41:09,626 --> 00:41:13,686

That's what it meant  
to us and it's just

728

00:41:15,076 --> 00:41:16,446

like a never ending story.

729

00:41:16,446 --> 00:41:18,416

You think you forget  
it, but you don't.

730

00:41:19,626 --> 00:41:22,076

So for America I  
just hope that--

731

00:41:22,926 --> 00:41:26,176

we will never be the same, yet  
never forget where we came from,