



1
00:00:03,516 --> 00:00:14,546
[Music]

2
00:00:15,046 --> 00:00:18,976
On September 11th I was in
Geometry class in high school

3
00:00:18,976 --> 00:00:21,656
and it was a day that I
will absolutely never forget

4
00:00:21,836 --> 00:00:24,026
because my dad was
traveling that day

5
00:00:24,566 --> 00:00:27,026
so we couldn't get a hold of
him for a really long time

6
00:00:27,026 --> 00:00:31,376
because his flight was switched
from Chicago to another city,

7
00:00:31,616 --> 00:00:35,226
Philadelphia and we had no
idea where he was all day.

8
00:00:36,306 --> 00:00:38,646
And you instantly are scared

9
00:00:38,766 --> 00:00:41,496
for our whole family
and for his safety.

10
00:00:42,236 --> 00:00:43,796
And I feel terrible
for all the people

11
00:00:43,796 --> 00:00:49,976

that lost somebody
on September 11th.

12

00:00:50,056 --> 00:00:52,676

I remember on September 11th

I was sitting in a meeting

13

00:00:52,676 --> 00:00:54,426

in the morning and my

wife called me to tell me

14

00:00:54,426 --> 00:00:58,106

that a plane had crashed

into the World Trade Center.

15

00:00:58,166 --> 00:01:00,076

Recall the meeting,

people getting wind of it

16

00:01:00,076 --> 00:01:02,986

and the meeting breaking up and

people retreating to offices,

17

00:01:02,986 --> 00:01:04,906

in a lot of cases just in time

18

00:01:04,906 --> 00:01:08,356

to watch the second

plane hit the twin towers

19

00:01:08,356 --> 00:01:13,766

and just a feeling of utter

disbelief and uncertainty

20

00:01:13,766 --> 00:01:15,096

as to what was gonna happen next

21

00:01:15,526 --> 00:01:19,906

and wondering what the

country would be dragged into.

22

00:01:20,046 --> 00:01:25,016

911 to me and that you're not
as prepared as you think you are

23

00:01:25,106 --> 00:01:28,986

and you can never have
too much planning,

24

00:01:29,096 --> 00:01:33,066

too much contingency planning
in place, too much training

25

00:01:33,066 --> 00:01:37,486

in first response and
also there's circumstances

26

00:01:37,736 --> 00:01:39,236

that no one can control.

27

00:01:39,236 --> 00:01:42,346

There's always gonna
be disasters

28

00:01:42,786 --> 00:01:45,826

that we might not be
able to fully prevent.

29

00:01:46,366 --> 00:01:51,436

We just have to be prepared
mentally and physically

30

00:01:51,436 --> 00:01:55,976

to respond to those disasters.

31

00:01:56,486 --> 00:01:59,086

It was the beginning of the loss
of innocence for this country.

32

00:01:59,516 --> 00:02:01,476
To have something actually occur

33
00:02:01,476 --> 00:02:04,256
on our shores was
really devastating,

34
00:02:04,656 --> 00:02:07,696
the loss of lives,
the impact of it all.

35
00:02:07,856 --> 00:02:09,496
It was devastating.

36
00:02:10,456 --> 00:02:15,186
When I first heard about it
I was still at home and at

37
00:02:15,186 --> 00:02:17,696
that time they thought it
was just a horrible accident.

38
00:02:18,836 --> 00:02:23,726
By the time I got to work, first
thing I did was find a radio

39
00:02:23,726 --> 00:02:25,726
and turn it on to see
what else was happening.

40
00:02:26,696 --> 00:02:30,266
By then they knew that
it was not an accident.

41
00:02:30,326 --> 00:02:34,956
By then I think the second
plane had already hit

42
00:02:34,956 --> 00:02:37,936
and I remember I just

knew at that moment

43

00:02:37,936 --> 00:02:42,566

that our world would
never be the same.

44

00:02:43,286 --> 00:02:45,856

I was across the street from the
Pentagon when the plane went in.

45

00:02:46,926 --> 00:02:53,706

Jet fuel immediately filled
the meeting room at our hotel.

46

00:02:54,176 --> 00:02:58,526

What mattered most to me is
that I saw the best of people

47

00:02:58,526 --> 00:03:01,476

in the face of the tragedy.

48

00:03:02,166 --> 00:03:05,866

The hotel staff actually went
home and baked cookies for all

49

00:03:05,926 --> 00:03:08,776

of us that were stuck
in the hotel.

50

00:03:08,946 --> 00:03:11,896

For me personally the
bravest person in my life

51

00:03:11,956 --> 00:03:15,636

through that whole time
was my wife who drove

52

00:03:15,746 --> 00:03:19,156

down from Cleveland to
Baltimore alone to pick me up.

53

00:03:19,556 --> 00:03:21,886

Baltimore was as far
away from Washington

54

00:03:22,316 --> 00:03:26,976

as I could get on
September 11th.

55

00:03:27,046 --> 00:03:31,336

And I was watching things
unfold on TV and I found

56

00:03:31,336 --> 00:03:32,896

out my wife was trying
to get a hold of me.

57

00:03:33,526 --> 00:03:35,426

And I thought well she
probably wants to tell me

58

00:03:35,426 --> 00:03:36,586

that this is happening.

59

00:03:36,586 --> 00:03:38,196

That must be what she
wants but I'll call her.

60

00:03:39,086 --> 00:03:41,806

I called her up and she was
pretty upset and she explained

61

00:03:41,806 --> 00:03:43,816

that Stevie, our nephew,

62

00:03:44,456 --> 00:03:46,786

is in one of the twin towers
there taking training.

63

00:03:46,786 --> 00:03:50,726

And he worked for Morgan Stanley at the time.

64

00:03:50,726 --> 00:03:51,386

He was a new employee.

65

00:03:52,456 --> 00:03:56,646

And watching it unfold before I knew that we had a relative

66

00:03:56,646 --> 00:03:59,676

in there was a different feeling and it really hit home.

67

00:04:00,186 --> 00:04:02,506

And we were both pretty upset.

68

00:04:03,476 --> 00:04:06,446

And it was a short time later that one of the towers fell.

69

00:04:07,756 --> 00:04:10,216

I don't think I could ever describe the feeling

70

00:04:10,216 --> 00:04:13,696

that I felt seeing the tower go down thinking

71

00:04:13,696 --> 00:04:15,586

that we had family in that tower.

72

00:04:16,776 --> 00:04:19,086

As it turns out, Stevie made it

73

00:04:19,086 --> 00:04:21,826

out with just a couple minutes to spare.

74

00:04:23,146 --> 00:04:25,436

And he came home and we all met

75

00:04:25,756 --> 00:04:27,236

as a family there,

a whole group of us.

76

00:04:27,236 --> 00:04:29,666

And he said I'm only gonna

talk about it one time.

77

00:04:30,416 --> 00:04:34,486

He explained what he saw

and what he went through

78

00:04:34,636 --> 00:04:44,146

and he's never really

spoken of it again.

79

00:04:44,146 --> 00:04:44,976

That's my story from 9-11.

80

00:04:45,046 --> 00:04:48,506

On September 11th, 2001, I

was at Randolph Air Force Base

81

00:04:48,506 --> 00:04:51,706

in Texas, near San Antonio,

where I was the Director

82

00:04:51,706 --> 00:04:53,666

of Logistics for the Air

Force's Training Command.

83

00:04:54,706 --> 00:04:56,486

Shortly after I got

to the office

84

00:04:56,486 --> 00:04:59,816
in the morning I was informed of
the first attack and then turned

85
00:04:59,816 --> 00:05:02,306
on the TV in my office and
watched the second attack

86
00:05:02,336 --> 00:05:05,006
on the twin towers
as well as pictures

87
00:05:05,006 --> 00:05:07,146
of the destruction
at the Pentagon.

88
00:05:07,146 --> 00:05:11,896
Shortly after that
our base was directed

89
00:05:12,006 --> 00:05:14,056
to shut down completely.

90
00:05:14,236 --> 00:05:16,926
And like all bases
around the world,

91
00:05:17,396 --> 00:05:19,546
our security forces were bent

92
00:05:19,546 --> 00:05:23,266
on finding people
intending similar destruction

93
00:05:23,266 --> 00:05:24,716
and killing them before
that could happen.

94
00:05:25,016 --> 00:05:27,736
As you know, that

did not happen.

95

00:05:28,776 --> 00:05:31,456

My mission on that day was
to make sure that the people

96

00:05:31,566 --> 00:05:35,336

in the three buildings that
made up my operation were safe

97

00:05:35,956 --> 00:05:39,486

and that we would begin as a
team to prepare for operating

98

00:05:39,486 --> 00:05:41,236

in a completely different
normal.

99

00:05:43,036 --> 00:05:45,976

Terrorism uses publicity
to magnify the impacts

100

00:05:45,976 --> 00:05:49,666

of its atrocities to compel
compliance with its demands.

101

00:05:50,146 --> 00:05:52,316

And by that measure this
terrorist campaign has

102

00:05:52,316 --> 00:05:53,156

mostly failed.

103

00:05:54,656 --> 00:05:57,576

History teaches us, however,
that we must be relentless

104

00:05:57,966 --> 00:06:01,636

about our pursuit of
these people to make sure

105

00:06:01,636 --> 00:06:04,626

that they cannot
complete their mission.

106

00:06:05,676 --> 00:06:07,726

People ask, are we winning?

107

00:06:08,176 --> 00:06:08,916

Can we win?

108

00:06:09,226 --> 00:06:11,386

My answer is yes and yes.

109

00:06:12,076 --> 00:06:15,396

America has done it before and
America will surely do it again.