

WHS Remembers 9/11

We must never forget...

September 11, 2001, 19 years ago today. It was an ordinary fall day where the sun was shining and the air was beginning to turn cool. It was a day that changed our country and our world forever. It is a day we must never forget.

On this ordinary day 19 years ago, 19 men hijacked 4 planes loaded with fuel and passengers with the intent to do harm to America. Two of these planes intentionally crashed into the north and south towers of the World Trade center in Lower Manhattan, killing 2,753 people.

A third plane intentionally crashed into the pentagon, killing 184 people. A fourth plane crashed in Pennsylvania after the crew and passengers fought back against their hijackers. All 40 people on board were killed.

Nearly 3000 ordinary, unsuspecting, people ranging in age from 2 to 85 and representing over 90 different nations were killed on American soil in a matter of hours. Mothers, Fathers, Sisters, Brothers, Friends, 3000 lost. We must never forget.

Our Country was shook to its core on this day. We no longer felt safe just because we were in America. Our country, our cities, our families, our children were all at risk. This single day changed how we, as Americans, looked at each other and how we looked at the rest of the world. We would never take our safety for granted again, we would never forget.

This single day also brought out the best in our Country. We put aside our differences. We bonded together to take care of one another. We worked side by side to recover the fallen. We fought back as a nation to secure our freedoms. We rebuilt our cities, we rebuilt as a nation. We worked to make sure we would never forget.

In the words of one of the pilot's widows "If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learned that life is short and there is no time for hate."

So let's not waste our time today on anger or hate, let us instead remember what a strong and resilient nation we are and can be. Let us remember what we lost on this day but let us also remember the country we have become because of it.

On this day, 19 years later, let us pause for a moment of silence to remember and honor the fallen of 9-11.