

# THE SEMPER TEK TIMES

Saturday, September 11, 2021

Lexington, KY Corporate Office

## Where Were You?

Where were you on September 11, 2001, at 8:46 AM when the north tower of the World Trade Center was struck? Were you in class, where you getting coffee, were you on your way to work? Many remember exactly where they were when they found out the first tower was hit and will never forget that moment. In those moments of chaos, confusion, and uncertainty it caused fear around the country. In the minutes to follow no one knew the reality of what had just happened, whether it was an accident or an act of terror. At first it was thought to be just a terrible accident until 18 minutes later when the south tower was hit. It became clear that this was no accident.

No more than 30 minutes from the south tower being hit, the Pentagon in Washington D.C. was then hit by another plane. By 10:07 on Flight 93 Passengers and crew members had learned about the other attacks and attempted to retake the plane. The plane was then crashed into a field in Pennsylvania by the hijackers.



Owned, Stock Image, World Trade Center, Sept. 11, 2001bigstock-Collapse-of-World-Trade-Center-15530933.jpg

### Where We Were

"It was much later in the day when I found out what had transpired in NY, I was participating in a military exercise, things happened so fast, and we had been in the dark for quite a while so when I finally found out I was totally shocked and angered."

- Andrew Blackwell, Robins Air Force Base, GA

"I was in Searcy, AR in my dorm at Harding University. My roommates and I were getting ready for class and one of their parents called and told us to turn on the Television immediately."

- Melissa England, Harding University, AR

"I was working at Rand and Jones in Buffalo, NY. My sons were in school, and I wanted to go get them, I called my husband, Joe and he said they were safer at school...leave them. That was tough."

- Carol Corcoran, Buffalo, NY

### A Unified Nation

2,996 people were killed that day. 343 firefighters, 23 New York Police officers, 37 Port authority Police officers, 189 at the Pentagon including the 64 aboard the flight, and 44 people on flight 93 that crashed in Pennsylvania. We remember and honor those who lost their lives that day.

As an American citizen this had a great impact on people around the country. Ironical enough this was done to harm us and create anger and disruption but instead people all around the country stepped up to volunteer, donate, and help in the months to follow. "It brought some unification across the country at a time when people were very politically divided much like we were today" said Scott Matheny, President and Founder.

Anti-Terrorism laws began to be written and passed in the years to follow and many became advocates from what happened that day.

Not only as a country did, we see great impact on our nation but individually in numerous of ways.

"It impacted my thirst to become more educated on U.S. and world politics" said James Ruley, Superintendent.

Jason Brinkmoeller, Senior Vice President said, "9/11 has had a profound impact on my life; without it I might not have gone active-duty military, which would have changed the course of my life drastically". By 9/12 Jason signed his paperwork to commission into the military upon graduation.

Because people were in disbelief and in shock that something like this could happen it humbled the nation and individuals to see other things of great importance other than just themselves.



Each dot represents where Semper Tek's current employees were on Sept. 11, 2001, IMG\_1779.jpg

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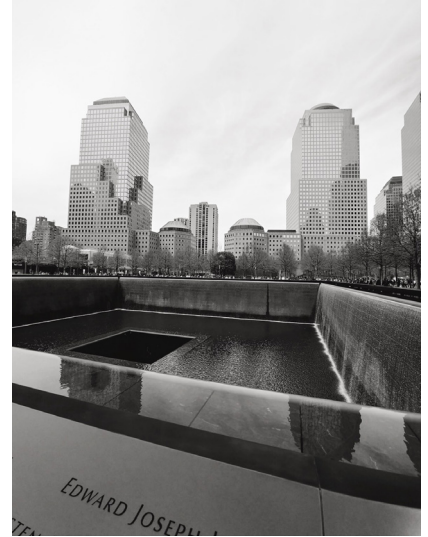
## The Days Ahead

As the moments and days to follow were very different and unrecognizable across the country. Many went home to be with their families, meetings were cancelled, people were told to go home, and were dealing with the loss of loved ones.

“In the days after it was eerie to look up in the sky and not see an aircraft or jet stream. It gave me a sense of pride and hope for America when driving down the interstate and seeing the American flag hanging from overpasses or alongside of

roadways. People were standing outside proudly holding the American Flags,” Eric Boursaw, General Superintendent.

“The night of September 11th my son Paul came running down the stairs and grabbed my hand to pull me outside. We stood in the front lawn, and he said, “Look Mom, not a plane in the sky, not a car on the road, we will never see this again! The world has stopped!” We were scheduled to fly out the next morning for his 16th birthday, but he was worried and didn’t want to fly. Time stood still for a few days,” Carol Corcoran, Pre-construction Specialist.



9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York that Opened Sept. 11, 2011  
9.11 memorial.jpg



Owned photo, Elizabeth Becknell, firetruck 9.11 memorial.jpg

## True American Heroes

Living in a country that stands for freedom is a blessing we often take for granted. There are people every day who are willing to sacrifice their lives to protect it. They care so much for the people in it they are willing to run back into that burning building. It is an easy thing to say we would do, but if you were standing there would you run back in?

“I’ve always been in awe of Veterans, Policemen, and Firemen that run in the opposite way that everyone else is running” said Carol Corcoran, Pre-Construction Specialist.

We thank all the heroes who sacrificed their lives to save thousands 20 years ago today and the thousands of

men and women who are now facing health issues because of it.

We are grateful for our American heroes who continue to protect us every day.

“The United States of America will use all our resources to conquer this enemy. We will rally the world. We will be patient. We’ll be focused, and we will be steadfast in our determination. This battle will take time and resolve, but make no mistake about it, we will win.” Says President Bush when addressing the nation. Semper Tek employees that went on to fight this battle include Jason Brinkmoeller, Jared Couch, and Andrew Blackwell.

No matter your age or where you were when the towers hit, in New York or across the world it had an impact on all of us. We will never forget what happened that day.

## From Semper Tek

“I was 12 years old and to that point in my life the world seemed like this perfect place. I didn’t understand how this could happen.”  
- Brent Handy, Accounting Manager

“When looking back at how many policemen and firemen selflessly ran towards and into the falling towers, I have enormous respect.”  
- Peter Keppel, Carpenter

“It gave me a deeper appreciation for life and those who protect us. It also made me realize that evil truly does exist in this world.” – Tara Brinkmoeller, Business Development Manager

“Americans thought nothing like this could or would ever happen on our soil. Personally, it made me angry and at the same time felt humbled, we could be attacked on our own soil. At that moment we were for the first time, in my time, vulnerable as a nation. That was something we had not experienced before on our own soil.” – Anthony Anderson, Superintendent

“I think the same as many Americans, and especially many young adults at that time, I thought our country was impervious to attack. It was truly shocking. Not just what happened, but the fact that it could happen here.”  
- Joe Eisenhower, Estimator

“9/11 changed the way I thought about things because it helped me grow up and look at the world more as a whole instead of just my little world.” -James Ruley, Superintendent