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Reliving the mayhem 15 years later

By Ted Brown
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A Ted Bit

Like millions of others around the world, The Sidekick and I sat in front of the television Sunday night, reliving the events of the World Trade Center attack, 15 years ago.

Sept. 11, 2001, will always be one of those times when we remember where we were the moment we heard about it.

The morning of the World Trade Center attack, I was in my car, on my way to the newspaper office.

The news announcer on the car radio reported that a plane had somehow flown into the side of the World Trade Center.

The verbal picture painted by the radio announcer gave the impression that it was a small plane, something like a single engine Cessna.

Once I got to the office, and pulled up the images on the computer screen did I learn the magnitude of the crash it was a commercial jet, not a small plane..

And the most disturbing fact of all it was a deliberate.

Soon after, another plane crashed into the other tower. I could only wonder how far reaching this attack was to be.

An hour and a half later, when the two towers collapsed, filling the streets of New York with clouds of dense dust, I felt so sorry for the people living in the midst of the carnage.

The entire city of New York was under siege and as I watched the documentary on television Sunday night, I was reminded of the sheer panic those people experienced.

I watched as New York firefighters walked past the cameramen, on their way to the towers to rescue those trapped on the floors above, some of them unwittingly on their way to their deaths.

Over and over on the old news footage, I saw

the fear and disbelief on the faces of those watching it all unfold in front of them.

And, after the dust had settled, I remembered the pictures of sheer carnage all over the streets dust, rubble, papers, and at times, body parts.

I was 50 years old when that happened. And today I'm 65.

Sept. 11, 2001 was a milestone for my family. It was my dad's 75th birthday. If he were still with us today, he would be 90 years old. I can't believe that. I'm 65 years old, and when I think of him being 90, well, I kinda feel old.

That night after it happened, Dad and I sat together, and talked about it into the night. He said he felt a bit sad that his 75th birthday was now synonymous with a terrorist attack.

I felt sad too.

Sunday night, as I watched the television, I couldn't believe how fast the time has gone since that first plane flew into the tower.

It seems like only a couple years ago, but it's now the 15th anniversary of 9/11.

Sept. 11, 2001 was a day that changed everyone in the world.

It was a day that we had our innocence shattered.

It was a day that our minds would be filled with images, thoughts and concerns, a time we would all experience insurmountable emotions and fear of the future.

But there is some good it was a time that we would suddenly realize that life passes much too quickly, and is incredibly fleeting at times.

The twin towers taught us life is precious, and can be gone in a heartbeat.

Never lose sight of that fact, and live each day to its fullest.

Because it goes by much too quickly.

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