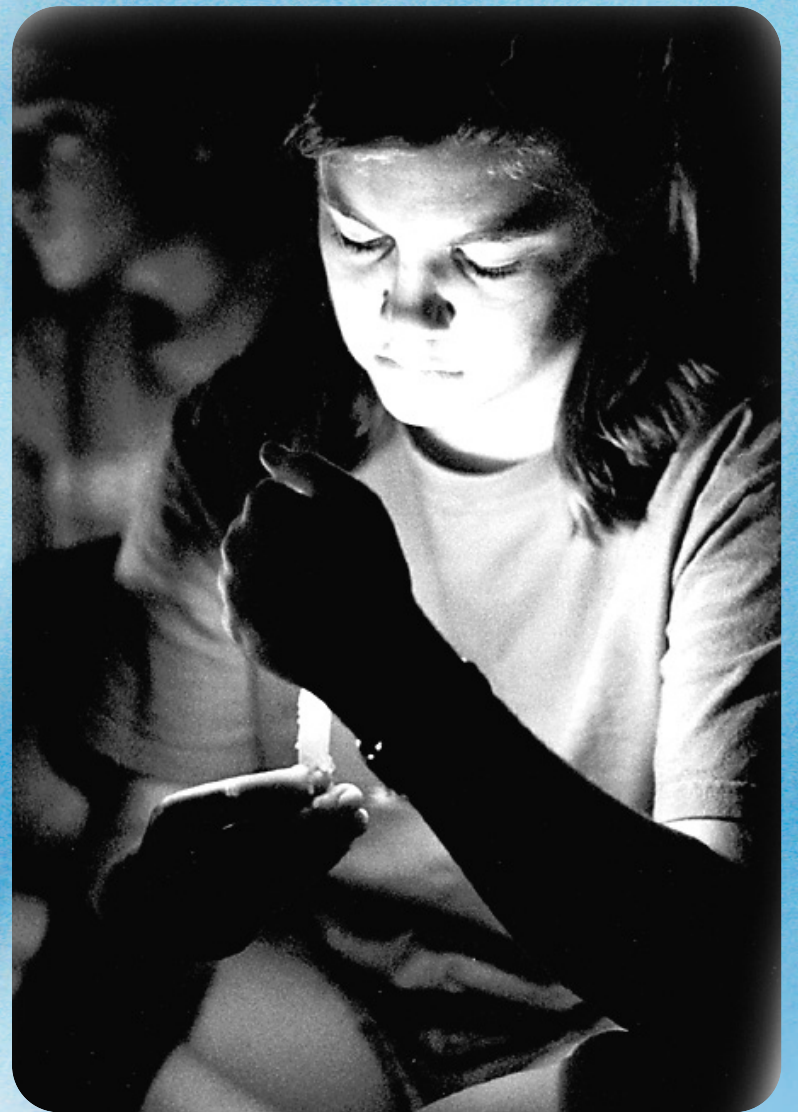




# REMEMBERS

## *Sept. 11: One Year Later*



## Campus grieved behind closed doors

BY DANIEL SCARPINATO  
Managing Editor

Minutes after last year's attacks, it was obvious that Sept. 11 would be no ordinary day for the professors, administrators, staff and students who were getting ready for morning classes, vacationing out of town and planning to sleep in late.

Instead of being greeted by a pop quiz when they arrived in classes, students were confronted with the news of a national tragedy.

But despite the unknown sense of safety and horrific images that followed throughout the day, President Peter Likins encouraged professors not

to cancel their classes.

"I want mathematics professors to talk about this," he said after a campus gathering that drew thousands.

In the days that followed, the campus community tried its best to go

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# REMEMBERS

Sept. 11: One Year Later

through the motions and focus on day-to-day activities.

And initially, many imagined that life would never be the same.

With the one-year anniversary of the attacks settling in and life back to normal, professors, students, staff and administrators are stopping and reflecting on a haunting day.

Yesterday, hail poured down outside as Terry Wallace was working in his lab on the fifth floor of the Gould-Simpson building. But last year, on the same day — a bright sunny Sept. 10 — he was just returning from a trip to the Pentagon.

At 6 a.m. the next day, Wallace was settling into his office in the Gould-Simpson building.

The geosciences professor was scanning Web sites, preparing to get back to lecturing his geologic disasters class, when a call from a friend on the East Coast came in.

The first plane had hit the World Trade Center.

And the first thing that went through his mind: What can I do to help?

"At that point, we didn't know what was ahead for us," he remembered.

Wallace hoped that there was something he could do — with his experience in earth sciences — that was socially relevant to the situation.

But soon he learned that there was not much he could do.

Nothing, that is, except get to his first class of the day.

Meanwhile, having missed her chance to go on a summer vacation, Janet Bingham and her husband had just checked into their hotel on Coronado Island, San Diego the day before.

The morning of Sept. 11, the couple was getting ready for their morning jog. But when the TV news made way for graphic images of the World Trade Center being hit, plans changed.

After checking on the safety of family, Bingham, UA's vice president for advancement, made contact with people back in the administration building immediately.

"I knew that Pete Likins would act quickly because of the magnitude of this," she said.

And he did.

In Tucson, Likins, Provost George Davis, then-student body president Ray Quintero and a slew of other university figures were already meeting to discuss what to do next.

The World Trade Center was now gone and the Pentagon was on fire.

The decision was made to hold a campus town meeting on the UA Mall — a kind of impromptu gathering.

In addition, a wall would be erected where



*"There was a stunning silence." Then after about five minutes of talking, the response was 'run like heck and find out if you know anyone.'"*

**Terry Wallace**

Geosciences professor talking about his early morning Sept. 11 class

students could write anything they felt.

But while campus leaders pondered their next move, Marshall Vest was in the middle of a war zone.

Vest, a UA economist, was in the Marriott Hotel at the World Trade Center attending an economics convention when the attacks occurred.

"As we were listening to the breakfast speaker, Morgan Stanley's president, Robert G. Scott, the chandeliers vibrated," Vest said. "I remember glancing at others seated at my table and it was obvious that we were all thinking the same thing: 'This isn't Los Angeles. They don't have earthquakes in New York, do they?'"

During the next couple of seconds, there was another explosion and the debris from the tower that had been hit by an airplane began raining down on the hotel.

Vest said the group had two options for exiting the ballroom — to the right were the elevators to Tower One, and to the left was

the hotel lobby.

Still not knowing what had happened above him, Vest looked out the lobby windows and saw a total war zone covered in concrete and twisted metal.

Vest and others were quickly ushered outside by hotel employees. Seeing the explosion in the tower above them and dead bodies on the ground below, they ran, hand-in-hand, through dark, thick soot until they reached the Hudson River two blocks away.

Back at home, Wallace and dozens of other professors with early morning classes faced a difficult situation — how to conduct a class and collect homework in the midst of a national tragedy.

With pictures of the World Trade Center collision projected on the classroom overhead, Wallace watched students come into class.

It was 9:30 a.m., over three hours after the first plane hit the buildings, but many of the

students showing up for his Geologic Disasters class knew nothing about the attacks.

"There was a stunning silence," Wallace said. "Then after about five minutes of talking, the response was 'run like heck and find out if you know anyone.'"

Skipping class was already in the plan for Josh Shapiro, a business junior who was sleeping-in the morning of Sept. 11.

"My best friend came to my room and told me the World Trade Center had fallen, and I didn't believe him at first," he said.

What followed for Shapiro were days spent glued to the television set, watching the tragedy unfold.

Aaron Little, an English and creative writing senior, had a similar experience.

"I got up maybe nine or ten and I went out and my roommate was already watching CNN and I was first learning what was happening," he remembered. "I think I did go to school that day. I don't think my roommates did. It was just in the air the whole day."

Back in New York, there was no air — just soot — and Vest was fighting for his life.

The rest of the day he struggled through the thick dust and smoke from the fallen buildings and latched onto New Yorkers who managed to find their way to safety.

After walking 10 miles — his mouth and nose covered by his hands — Vest arrived looking like a man buried alive at a safe Midtown Manhattan building.

Out in California late that night, Bingham and her husband finally managed to take that jog, while Vest, three hours ahead of them, slept cuddled in Midtown with his cell phone.

A year later, Bingham said she has a changed philosophy on life because of the attacks.

"I'm not going to take for granted our freedom," she said. "It's not untouchable."

But the everyday lives of UA students, faculty and staff have not changed, nor have most of their directions.

"I suppose in viewing pop culture, like movies and such, seem to be more sensitive now to the sort of subjects that go along with the subjects of Sept. 11, the terrorist acts in general and in viewing our government, the CIA and the forces that protect us so to speak," Little said.

Wallace will teach class again today, but to a crowd not quite as tense and somber as last Sept. 11.

"Today we stand one year later, and the way we do science and targets has not really changed," he said, admitting that he was uncertain in the hours after the attack as to what the impact would be.

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## Remember: A tribute to the UA alumni lost on Sept. 11

BY RYAN JOHNSON

### Gary E. Bird

1972 Graduate

On Sept. 11, Gary E. Bird, 51, was supposed to be out of New York and back home to Tempe to have dinner with his wife.

Bird had just taken a top position for Marsh and McLennan, a risk management company, the day before and planned to work out of Phoenix.

But Bird spent the first two days in New York for meetings.

On Sept. 11, he would step into his 8:15 a.m. three-hour meeting and never leave. He never really liked New York.

"I'm really claustrophobic here, because I can't see the horizon," he said to his wife in 1984, according to the *New York Times*.

Husband of Donna Killoughey Bird and father to Amanda and Andrew, he kept three quarter horses. He had taken the summer off and trained a new filly named Dani. Just four days before Sept. 11, he rode her with a saddle for the first time.

Bird had worked for Phelps Dodge for 12 years and wrote The Wrap-Up Guide, a textbook on the installation and operation of controlled insurance programs.

"If there was a member of the risk management community who could serve as a role model for a Construction Risk Management Best Practices Award recipient, it was Gary Bird," said Jack Gibson, IRMI President. "Gary always pushed the risk management horizon in search of new ways to manage the risks of large construction projects."

After his death, the institute renamed the award the Gary E. Bird Horizon Award.



### Karol Ann Keasler

1981 Graduate

More than anything, Karol Ann Keasler will be remembered for her infectious smile and love for life.

"Karol was always the one to have a smile on her face, the one to always help out anyone who needed it," said friend Laurie Walker. "She was so full of life and she shared her love by laughing and smiling. There was no way you could see Karol without laughing or smiling yourself."

In fact, her kindness may have led to her death in the second tower at the World Trade Center.

Employees of Keefe, Bruyette and Woods, where Karol, 42, worked as an event planner, say that someone came on the loudspeaker and told everyone to stay in their office.

"Being a good girl who always took instruction, she stayed in her office," said Denise Keasler, her mother.

Born in Arizona, she graduated from UA with a BA in sociology. She traveled the world, living in Africa for two years and visiting Cambodia, Sweden and Bosnia.

"What will I miss most about Karol? Everything," Walker said. "A good friend and a fun-loving woman."

"Terrorism may have killed Karol and a few thousand others, but she will never be forgotten."





# Fear pushed some away, most came back

BY JAMES KELLEY  
Staff Writer

In the days following last year’s attacks, fear and rumors ran rampant among the Arab and Muslim communities.

As a result, at least 53 students from other countries went home.

One year later, most of them have returned.

While officials are not sure exactly how many students who fled the university after the Sept. 11 attacks returned, they agree most have come back.

The exact number is still being calculated and will not be known until Sept. 16, when the UA will report its final enrollment to the Arizona Board of Regents.

Kirk Simmons, executive director of international affairs, said about 80 or 90 percent of students who left came back.

Those who didn’t return either transferred to another school, had parents who weren’t ready to let them go or stayed home or wanted to but could not get visas, said Joanne Lagasse-Long, director of international student programs and services.

Sharon Kha, spokeswoman for the university, said, quoting an October 2001 report, 65 students withdrew in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks. Twelve were U.S. citizens, and 11 of those students had military obligations.

Initially, it was feared that Tucson Muslims would be particularly targeted by hate crimes because one of the suspected suicide bombers, Hani Hanjour, was a former UA student.

Also, bin Laden’s chief of logistics, Wa’el Hamza Jelaidan, is believed to have been president of the Islamic Center of

Tucson in the 1980s.

“Rumors, they were spreading very wide that we are here being attacked and accused and insulted, which made parents worry, so they called them and begged them to come home and disregard their studies and philosophies. They just wanted their kids to be safe,” said Omar Shahin, imam and director of the Islamic Center of Tucson.

International students who withdrew were from Bahrain, Kuwait, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which had the most with 34, Kha said.

All the students from the United Arab Emirates came back except for two, Shahin said.

Last year there were about 3,800 international students, 2,800 of whom were here on temporary visas, Kha said.

With the United States tightening security, students from Saudi Arabia, Osama bin Laden’s place of birth and the former home of 15 of the 19 suspected Sept. 11 hijackers, represent one of the largest groups of students who were denied visas.

Despite this, Tucson Muslims feel safe, said Shahin, who knew Osama bin Laden in 1981 or 1982 while he was studying in Medina, Saudi Arabia.

“I think it could be worse but so far I think we are doing OK. They are a few crazy people — very, very few,” Shahin said. “The whole Muslim people have been suffering since Sept. 11. Those hijackers hijacked our freedom in America. We are not enjoying freedom and justice anymore because of what they have done.”

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*“Those hijackers hijacked our freedom in America. We are not enjoying freedom and justice anymore because of what they have done.”*

Omar Shahin  
Imam and director of the Islamic Center of Tucson

## Remember : A tribute to the UA alumni lost on Sept. 11

### Jeffrey W. Coombs

When 1982 Graduate  
Christie

Coombs dropped off her husband, Jeff, at the train stop that would take him to the Boston Airport, she couldn’t wait for him to return.

“We were looking forward to spending our birthdays and our anniversary in New York. It would have been our first time without kids since our 8-year old was born,” Coombs said.



But instead, those days became a period of mourning. Coombs got on American Airlines Flight 11, the same jet Mohamed Atta boarded.

The jet was the first to strike as it flew into the North Tower at 8:45 a.m. Coombs, who was in Alpha Kappa Lambda and received a bachelor’s degree in finance from UA, was on a business trip as a securities analyst for Compaq.

Originally from Massachusetts, Jeff met Christie while he was a sophomore at UA.

She recalls fondly the time they spent together in Tucson before they moved to Massachusetts to raise a family.

Jeff and Christie stayed big UA fans and Jeff continued to support the business college.

“We joked about our kids going to U of A and he would get a job teaching and we could spend summers in the Cape,” said Coombs.

Coombs loved to hike and camp and would go to the Colorado River every year. He was scheduled to go two weeks after Sept. 11.

He was always there for his kids and created laughter throughout the house, Christie said.

“The kids lost their best friend,” she said.

### Frederick J. Cox

1997 Graduate

It was a statement too good for even a Hollywood film.

Merely two months before his death, Frederick J. Cox, 27, told his mom how wonderful his life was.

The last time Cox, an investment banker for Sandler, O’Neill & Partners, spoke with his mother was Saturday, Sept. 9.



“He told me mom you know how much I love you and nothing will ever come between us. I said to him, ‘bye darling I love you.’ He was always affectionate and we had a wonderful relationship. He wasn’t perfect, but I thought so,” said Ann Douglas, his mother.

He was working as an investment banker for Sandler O’Neill on the 104th floor of the second tower.

Born in Atlanta, Cox moved to Arizona when he was 14. After graduating from the UA with a degree in entrepreneurship in 1997, he moved to New York, the fourth generation of his family to do so.

His sister, Susanne Eaton, said he wanted the American dream.

“He had been working his butt off and was working toward success. He wanted to get married and have children,” she said.

Eaton said that he wanted to name his daughter Maple Madison after a Robert Frost poem.

After he died, his family moved everything from his apartment to their lake house. His sister remembers him going around New York City wearing his old, tattered fishing hat with a pewter fish on the front.

They hung the hat up and plan to give it to his nephew, Timothy Frederick, as a namesake.

### Christopher Larrabee

1998 Graduate

Christopher Larrabee had been trying to put more focus into his life.

Working as a trainee for Cantor Fitzgerald since March, he was beginning his climb up the corporate ladder.

Tragically, however, he worked at the top of the first tower. A 1998 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in media arts, he was just 26 when he died.



His friends remember him as having a strong personality.

“He was always smiling and cheerful and very helpful. He was also very funny,” said friend Matt Harp. “Chris not only worked as a production assistant on our student videos and films, he acted. One time he was an extra, dressing up as a renegade cowboy in an Old West shootout. He improvised lines and really made the scene.”

His teachers remember him as calm and collected.

“I remember him as a friendly, laid back guy with a quick smile,” said

Debra Lea Wright, a UA media arts instructor.

At 18, he underwent brain surgery after a series of painful seizures. He had since then been taking medication, but decided at the beginning of the year to quietly stop taking them, resulting in more seizures and hospitalizations.

He had ambitions of success at his job with the firm, which his father, an equity trader at their Los Angeles office, helped him find.

“He left a lot behind to follow this dream of his. He was scared and nervous to move so far away, but he was adjusting pretty well and getting into the scene,” his twin sister Paige told the *New York Times*.





**File Photo**  
A student last fall reads from the Wall of Expression, erected by the UA on Sept. 11, 2001. The wall, a forum for debate and expression following the terrorist attacks last year, was put into storage. A new Wall of Remembrance will be erected at Flandrau Science Center today.

# Wall of Expression will be resurrected

*Based on student suggestions, the wall panels are to be taken out of storage and displayed permanently as a memorial*

**BY REBEKAH JAMPOLE**  
Staff Writer

A year ago today, UA gave its students the Wall of Expression, a chance for them to cope with the terrorist attacks and write what was on their minds.

But where are the wall panels now?

The panels will be pulled out of storage eventually, said Jeff Warburton, an associate director of theatre arts who was influential in getting walls put up near the arts complex last September.

“Those walls are a part of history specific to the university, they have a significant meaning to those who saw them,” said Carol Thompson, senior associate dean of students.

The Wall of Expression, which eventually extended to other areas of campus, was erected on the UA Mall as a public diary for the UA community.

A month later, the wall was taken down, after concerns emerged that the board had turned to graffiti.

But the panels of the wall are not lost, nor are the thoughts written on them. For now, they are in storage, while the UA

administration and students decide on the wall’s final resting place.

“It’s one of those things you don’t want to lose,” Warburton said.

But despite the fact that the wall has been absent for nearly a year, students have not forgotten it.

“I think they should take parts of (the wall), with a really special drawing or quote, and display them,” said Teresa Bevins, a secondary education senior.

Suggestions as to the fate of the wall have poured in from students and the community, all hoping to see the wall and

the messages it carries again, Thompson.

“We are taking in to consideration many student suggestions concerning the walls of expression,” she said.

So far, Proposals have included a memorial display of parts of the wall in the Student Union

Memorial Center or the Museum of Art.

No final decision has been made as to when or where the wall will appear again.

A new Wall of Remembrance has been constructed at the Flandrau Science Center. Students are encouraged to use the wall to reflect and express thoughts, a year after the events of Sept. 11. The wall will remain on display for the next three weeks.

Students with suggestions about what to do with the Walls of Expressions can contact the Dean of Students Office.

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# Viewpoints

*For the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Wildcat asked members of the UA community what were they doing during the defining event of our generation, and how the events changed their life.*

*Compiled by James Kelley  
Photos by Derekh Froude*

- “I was sitting in school and my teacher came in and told us the news, crying hysterically.”
- “Basically all my other school choices were east coast schools. A lot of my friends and their parents are from New York, so when it happened it was huge for me. We were afraid of another attack, so my mom wanted me to apply to a school away from the east coast and big cities. I first considered Arizona as sort of a joke, but then visited and loved the campus.”

**Max Donahue**  
Business management freshman



- “I was actually asleep and I had a friend call me, wake me up and tell me to turn on the news and I couldn’t believe it. I called everyone I knew and I was just flabbergasted for the rest of the day.”
- “Not too much actually. I definitely do feel a lot more pride for our nation.”

**Christine Fultyn**  
MIS and marketing junior

- “I came early for my job and everybody was just shocked, so was I. I actually didn’t get to see the videos until the next day.”

- “For me it was more of just shock and then of course I had to be extra careful. You just keep thinking about why people do this and why do things like this happen. That’s the most saddening part.”

**Anubhav Swami**  
electrical engineering graduate student  
and Research Assistant from India



- “I was in Sweden, I just came here three weeks ago.”
- “It affected me mentally and economically. It’s both of them. Mentally it helped me get more insight and better perspective about terrorism, how bad it can be.”

**Björn Hammar skjöld**  
Business freshman

- “I was asleep and then I woke up. My mom was sitting there crying. She was listening to news.”

- “My dad’s a Marine, there was a chance he was going to get sent out there and so for a while I was pretty upset about it. But he didn’t have to go.”

**Laura Schumacher**  
astro physics freshman



- “I was at Social Sciences, 5:30 in the morning sitting there in a lecture with other Air Force ROTC cadets.”
- “It affected me tremendously only because I’m in Air Force ROTC program here at the UA. So it hit pretty hard when they told us we couldn’t get our uniforms, I realized it was a big deal.”

**Stephanie Joyce**  
communication and media arts sophomore  
and member of the Air Force ROTC

- “I was in my room, getting ready for school and I heard it on the radio that a plane had crashed into the Pentagon and I said, ‘the Pentagon?’ like you know, that’s a joke.”

- “Well, I think that it kind of allowed me to think more about my future here in America and my future as just a person and developing and knowing more about cultures and religious and more about society and the world. Before I was kind of immune to this, America is a country where something like that could never happen.”

**Erin O’Brien**  
undeclared freshman



- “I was with my little brother watching TV. I thought it was a movie ... I think 9/11 shook more than just Americans. It made the whole world realize that you can never underestimate the power of evil, no matter how many security cameras you put up.”
- “In Kuwait there was a war, but it never was a terrorist attack. It makes me appreciate life more, because you never know when a close member, or even you, might end up dead. You just want to leave something behind and tell all the ones you love that you love them. And it’s sad, because the people on the plane never got that chance.”

**Khadeejah al-Sayegh**  
molecular and cellular biology freshman from Kuwait

- “I was just coming to work, just got to work. I heard it on the radio. I ride my bike to work and when I got to my truck I heard.”

- “I’m maybe more aware. You know, you always realize stuff like this can go down. I spent 25 years as a fireman.”

**Chuck Hammel**  
Parking and Transportation Services bike safety officer

