

Sept. 11 Survivor: 'My Life Has Totally Changed'

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On Sept. 11, 2001, Sujo John was working in World Trade Center Tower 1 when American Airlines Flight 11 tore through his building.

After several hours, he managed to escape with his life. But for John, the terror of that day was not over yet. His wife's office was in the second World Trade Center tower.

John had barely begun his workday on the 81st floor when he heard a loud explosion.

As flames burst through the office, John and his co-workers quickly headed for the stairwell.

"I thought I would die," John said. "The building was swaying and we could feel the building tilting to the left, fighting our way through the fire making our way to the stairwell."

At that point, air traffic radar showed the plane abruptly turning 180 degrees, heading southeast, apparently toward Washington with the possible intention of crashing it into the White House or Capitol.

Fearing the worst for his pregnant wife Mary, John made frantic cell phone calls to her without success.

During his nearly one-hour descent from the 81st floor, another explosion rocked the building. John had no idea a second plane had just flown into Tower 2.

Unknown to him, Mary arrived at Tower 2 just moments after the second jet crashed into it. She was never allowed to enter the building.

When CBN News spoke with the couple at their new home in Dallas, it was one of the few times that Mary has shared what she went through that day.

"We were standing right beneath the buildings and I was trying to call him on my cell phone," she recalled. "I kept hitting the redial button, the cell phones weren't working."

"The call wouldn't go through," Mary continued. "And while I was still standing there the second plane came and struck the second building."

"I saw it. I was standing right under the buildings. I felt the heat and the debris falling all around me," she added.

Hysterical, Mary spent all of that morning calling out to God to protect her husband -- promising him something in return.

"One of my prayers was, 'Lord if you help him out of that building, by some chance he's able to make it out, then I'm ready to give up everything we have right now, our jobs, whatever else we have,'" she said. "'We'll go to a third world country, we'll serve you for the rest of our lives.'"

Adapted from Charlene Aaron's article - source : <http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2009/September/911-Survivor-Shares-Survival-Story/>