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# Daily Southtown

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'All this stuff started falling, and all this smoke was coming through. People were screaming, falling and jumping out of the windows.'



# Unimaginable



AP/Photos

Smoke billows from one of the towers of the World Trade Center as the other tower explodes. Terrorists crashed two airliners into the buildings, both of which later collapsed.

## AIRBORNE TERRORISTS STRIKE AND STRIKE AGAIN

By David Cray and Jerry Schwartz  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In the most devastating terrorist onslaught ever waged against the United States, knife-wielding hijackers crashed two airliners into the World Trade Center on Tuesday, toppling its twin 110-story towers. The deadly calamity was witnessed on televisions across the world as another plane slammed into the Pentagon, and a fourth crashed outside Pittsburgh.

"Today, our nation saw evil," President Bush said in an address to the nation Tuesday night. He said thousands of lives were "suddenly ended by evil,

despicable acts of terror." Said Adm. Robert J. Natter, commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet: "We have been attacked like we haven't since Pearl Harbor."

Establishing the U.S. death toll could take weeks. The four airliners alone had 266 people aboard and there were no known survivors. At the Pentagon, about 100 people were believed dead.

In addition, a firefighters union official said he feared an estimated 200 firefighters had died in rescue efforts at the trade center — where 50,000 people worked — and dozens of police officers were believed missing.

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The Pentagon also was hit by a hijacked airplane Tuesday, and word quickly spread through Washington, spurring fear and chaos in the capital.

## A NICE WOMAN'S LIFE HIJACKED BY TERRORISTS

A few moments after I told a woman her husband was on board an airplane hijacked by terrorists, she thanked me for being kind.

Ellen Marioni, 63, lives in Derry, N.H. She was traveling to her daughter's wedding, planned for Saturday.

Her ATA flight out of Boston was scheduled to make a stop Tuesday at Chicago's Midway Airport, where she expected to catch a connecting flight to Los Angeles.

But that flight never took off. It was grounded after terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Virginia.



PHIL KADNER  
Daily Southtown columnist

I met Mrs. Marioni while interviewing stranded passengers at Midway. She told me she has four children and that her daughter

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