

News10
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Names read at WTC site

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NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. -- It began with the sound of bagpipes. The solemn ceremony honoring the 2,751 people who are now believed to have died in the terrorist attacks seven years ago to the day.

After the **Young People's Chorus of New York** sang the Star Spangled Banner, fire fighters and police officers carried off the tattered American flag that flew over the site in the days after the attack, coming to symbolize loss and resilience.

"We come each year to stand alongside those who loved and lost the most. To bear witness to the day which began like any other. And ended like none ever has," said New York City Mayor Bloomberg.

A moment of silence, the first of four, came at 8:46 a.m., the time the first hijacked plane hit the North Tower. Then the reading of the names of the dead began with a poignant remembrance of John Salamone by his three children, who were wearing his soccer jerseys. Salamone was a broker for Cantor Fitzgerald and worked in the North Tower.

"For our Dad, we hope to make a difference in the world one day. He would be so proud of that. My Dad died on 9/11, but he is not gone. Just look at each of our faces and you will see him shine through us, every day. We love you Daddy," said Aidan Salamone.

This year, the names were read not just by victims' families, but by students representing the more than 90 countries that lost citizens on 9/11.

"I'm proud to have read the names of the victims from my country of Antigua," said Clemensia Joseph.

Dr. Sneha Anne Philip's name was restored to the list of victims this year. She was last seen near the trade center the day before 9/11 and an appeals court ruled that it's plausible she died helping other victims of the attacks.

At 9:03 a.m., there was another moment of silence to mark the time when the second plane hit the South Tower.

The ceremony was held in neighboring Zucatti Park again this year because of construction at the World Trade Center site. But victims' families were allowed to walk down a ramp to the site to a reflecting pool, where many laid flowers and left pictures and cards.

"For my son-in-law, we miss you and love you and you left us with a beautiful daughter you can be proud of," said Nora Lee.

Dignitaries past and present each read briefly.

The stream of names the backdrop as the stream of family members made their way to the site.

And two more moments of silence were held at 9:59 a.m. and 10:29 a.m., when the towers each fell.

"It feels like yesterday and a lifetime ago when you were taken so suddenly," said Katherine Hernandez.

A sentiment shared by so many who lost so much on this day seven years ago.