

We were united in our resolve to defend our country and protect the freedoms that has made America the greatest country in the history of the world.

Later that day, I joined scores of my colleagues on the East Steps of the Capitol where we sang 'God Bless America', lit candles, held hands, and prayed for our country and its leaders.

In the days ahead, I travelled to New York City to visit first responders and victims still recovering bodies and rescuing victims of the attacks and became a charter member of the Committee on Homeland Security to ensure that 9–11 never again happens in America.

A united America can never be defeated as Operation Enduring Freedom showed.

The brave and valiant armed forces of the United States swiftly toppled the Taliban and liberated Afghanistan, making good on the pledge that "[w]hether the terrorists are brought to justice or justice is brought to the terrorists, justice will be done."

And though he ran and hid for almost ten years, Osama bin Ladin could not hide forever and evade the long arm of American justice, which, under the leadership of President Barack Obama, caught up with him on May 2, 2011.

Madam Speaker, Americans take care of their own.

Americans cherish freedom. Americans cherish liberty.

And Americans want peace.

Not just for themselves alone, but all persons in every corner of the globe.

Madam Speaker, ensuring that America is safe and secure and protected from another attack on American soil is the least we owe to the heroic passengers on Flight 93 and to the brave firefighters of the FDNY and officers of the NYPD and the officers and civilians we lost in the Pentagon who gave faithful service to our nation.

Americans want their country to remain safe, free, and invulnerable to another cowardly attack like the one we witnessed eighteen years ago today.

We owe that much to the Americans who lost and gave their lives.

We owe it to them to ensure that their children and loved ones will never again experience such pain, suffering, and loss.

We can do this. We must do this. After all, we are Americans.

IN REMEMBRANCE ON THE 18TH
ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of all the lost lives and families of 9/11, on the 18th anniversary with a poetic tribute penned by Albert Carey Caswell. Sadly, we are living daily with the second wave on 9/11 with the loss of all those magnificent responders who stayed on to help recover our lost loved ones. Our prayers go out to them and their families on this day.

And on this day . . .

We gather and pray, forgetting not all those who've paid . . .

But, with their most precious lives on that day, and continue to in every way . . .

With the price so grave . . .

And for all of their loved ones living and the lost,

who now lie in such cold quiet graves the cost . . .

And the ones whose precious bodies we could not bury nor save . . .

Oh how the tears come our way,
wishing somehow to each heart remorse convey . . .

Our thoughts and prayers go with them in their pain each day . . .

As we add new names to this list that which evil gave . . .

With more and more Heroes going to their graves . . .

All in the aftermath of 9/11 and in its second wave . . .

Were all those heroes who dug in deep,
to find our most precious loved ones while in the midst this evil speaks . . .

All so their loved ones could find solace,
and bury their loved ones in the earth deep down beneath . . .

On this day to stop and pray to these hearts which speak . . .

And give thanks and remembrance for all and each . . .

The families who can not be repaid . . .
God Is Good and God Is Great, all in such magnificent heroes he creates . . .

For such selflessness there can be no greater gift then this . . .

Then, all of those Gotham Hearts who stood so courageously on that day we miss . . .

And laid down their lives illuminating our souls in the light of hope's golden rays . . .

With rays of hope and faith and courage and glory to our children we must convey . . .

And now all of the new battles which lie ahead,

for all of those who stayed on the site who too now blood must shed . . .

Trying to give closure to the families,
so their loved ones could be lowered into such solemn graves . . .

As its for them and all of their loved ones in this new battle pray . . .

And for all those innocents who died just because they went to work that day . . .

We Can Not and Will Never Forget . . .
As like them too we must face each new day . . .

With the determination and grit and courage as they . . .

To live our lives but For The Greater Good each day . . .

As we have built in their honor this magnificent shrine upon hearts which stays . . .

Which rises out of the ashes of hate in its light up towards heaven in time . . .

So very splendid and so very fine . . .
That which now will so surely stand the test of time . . .

So that from generation to generation all of our children will find . . .

The answer to winning the battle against evil in its darkest of times . . .

Goodness, Evil, Darkness, Light, those brave hearts who evil must fight . . .

Who bring their light, together enjoined as we battle on into that dark night . . .

And that The Darkness is no match for The Light . . .

As we pray our souls be filled with such hope and such faith as they so bright . . .

Knowing full well that time does not heal all,

only up in Heaven when out to us our love ones call . . .

When, once again together again . . .

Let us find peace, let us find rest, let us mend with our Lord us to bless . . .

And watch over all of the families in their battle in the second wave 9/11's direst . . .

And all of the families who lost loved ones and gave all in death . . .

As we thank and remember all of America's Best . . .

ON THIS DAY . . .

In memory of all those beautiful people who lost their lives and their loved ones on 9/11, and still lose more

today in the second wave of 9/11's tragedy. May God

Bless them all and hold them in palm of his hands . . .

WE WILL NEVER FORGET!

TRIBUTE TO J'S MAINTENANCE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Waldheim family upon the 50th anniversary of J's Maintenance in Glendale, California.

For over a half a century, J's Maintenance has provided clients with superb commercial janitorial services and is an outstanding example of a family-owned business that cares about their customers' satisfaction, their staff's wellbeing and their community.

Ed and Linda Waldheim bought the small janitorial service company in 1969 and re-built it essentially from the ground up. They have had clients ranging from individual residences to large companies like J.C. Penney and Sears. Their son, Chris Waldheim, currently runs the company. Under Chris's leadership, the company has set a great example by conducting their business in an environmentally friendly way, from installing solar panels on their roof to using green chemicals for their cleaning services. Additionally, J's Maintenance has implemented a recycling program that has saved thousands of pounds of waste from entering our landfills.

In addition to their business success, the Waldheim family also exemplifies what it means to be civic leaders. The family supports Relay for Life, which raises funds for the American Cancer Society to conduct research and provide services to patients while in treatment and are avid supporters of the Crescenta Valley and Montrose Chambers of Commerce. J's Maintenance has also invested in the local schools in the Crescenta Valley area by sponsoring activities like Clark Magnet High School's robotics team and fundraising for Crescenta Valley High School's prom. Most notably, however, is Chris's support for and involvement with the YMCA of the Foothills. He served as a board member for several years, holding leadership positions, chaired the Community Support Campaign for three years, and he and his family continuously support the YMCA's events. In 2011, Chris was awarded the Pat Aho Volunteer of the Year Award for his long-lasting involvement with the YMCA.

Our community has greatly benefited from the hard work and dedication of the Waldheim family and their business, J's Maintenance. I ask all Members to join with me in congratulating the Waldheim family upon the 50th anniversary of J's Maintenance.