

## **An excerpt from "Where were you when....?"**

**cosmo:** Rob and I were discussing where we were when major events took place, i.e. Challenger, Columbia, 9/11, etc.

So where were you when certain major events happened? It doesn't have to be the ones mentioned. I just want to keep it to things that "shook the world" kind of stuff.

**devilman:** Challenger - 8th grade, woodshop class.

9/11 - At work (PCNA), at my desk, listening to Howard Stern on 104.1

Columbia - Living at the funeral home, just got out of bed

**cosmo:** I guess I forgot to put some of mine up.

Challenger: I was at the launch on a field trip. I was one of 3 people in my class to have seen a live launch before.

Columbia: Found out just before heading into a class I was taking on weekends at the time.

9/11: Had trouble sleeping and turned on the TV minutes after the first plane hit. Thought to myself, "This is going to be a good movie". Saw the second plane hit and nearly fell over.

Princess Diana: In the Western Pacific/Indian Ocean, on deployment onboard the USS Constellation.

OKC bombing: On deployment with the USS Independence off the coast of Japan.

**zatharus:** Challenger: We were watching the launch on TV at school.

9/11: Was on my way to work at CVG and listening to Howard Stern.

I really have no idea where I was for Columbia, Princess Diana, or the OKC Bombing.

Though as an editorial aside, other than 9/11 I don't really think any of the above mentioned events actually "shook the world".

9/11 led to war in Afghanistan and Iraq, indirectly impacted the re-election of a President, and forever changed American attitudes towards the Middle East as well as Middle Eastern attitudes towards America. It also had a dramatic impact on the way other countries view the US.

The Challenger Explosion, Columbia Explosion, OKC Bombing, and Princess Diana Death were tragic events in their own right, but in the grand scheme of things really didn't impact the entire world in any meaningful way the way 9/11 did.

**cosmo:** You have a point, zatharus, but I was more or less talking about news that shocked the world, not reshaped it, so-to-speak. I was trying to get away from the "house next door burning down" and "this dude was murdered up the street" stuff. Things that everyone knows about.

I should have made that a bit more clear.

**typeofreak:** Challenger: I was in the pod in 4th grade while all the other kids who DIDN'T have total bitches for teachers were outside watching it in the clear, blue sky. We did get to watch the aftermath on tv as the school pretty much shut down for the rest of the day. God I hated that fucking bitch!

9/11: I was taking calls at CVG. I went to the breakroom to watch it on tv since all our calls were, "Why can't I get to the CNN web site?" Then I came back and the guy who told me about the first one told me a second plane hit the other tower. I told him he was full of shit but went back to the breakroom.

12/26/04 Tsunami: I was at home celebrating the Xmas aftermath.

**Knight717:** The only one that I remember is of course 9/11. I was a metal roofer at the time and I was cutting some sheetmetal to fit on the flashing for the roofs of the new dorms at UCF. Anyway, I got down for a minute to get something to drink and grab a smoke. Some guy said that he heard on his Nextel that somebody just bombed the Pentagon. I told him he was full of shit and to stop pulling our leg. Then he said that somebody bombed one of the twin towers also. I still thought he was joking until the foreman rode up and called everybody down and we all listened to the truck radio for about 2 hours not believing what we were hearing. I did not see any footage until after 6-7 p.m. that night when I got home from work. That was a crazy day! I'll never forget it.

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