



TRAVIS MANION  
FOUNDATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 7, 2021**

## **Local Veteran Nonprofit to Host Memorial Event Honoring Those Lost on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 Attacks**

**DOYLESTOWN, PA** - This September, one of the nation's leading veteran service organizations, [Travis Manion Foundation](#) (TMF), which was founded in Doylestown, PA, will host a memorial event to honor all those lost on 9/11 and in the wars since. The event will take place on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, beginning at 8:46am, the same time that the first plane hit the North Tower.

During this ceremony, a bell will be rung and the names for every person killed in the 9/11 attacks will be read, along with the names of all service members from Bucks County who were killed in the corresponding wars. In total, the names of 2,977 9/11 victims and 7,060 service members killed since 9/11 will be read aloud. The event will take place at Main St. and Court St. in the center of Doylestown, on the grounds of the old Doylestown Courthouse, directly in front of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Global War on Terror Memorial. With the reading of every name for those lost, this event is anticipated to take approximately 12 hours.

The emcee of the event will be Gold Star Mother, Ruth Bednarzyk, who will conduct an opening ceremony beginning at 8:30am. Additional speakers during the opening ceremony will include Gold Star Parents Mark & Nancy Umbrell, Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick, and PA Assembly Representative and Blue Star Wife Shelby Labs.

Additional opportunities in Doylestown to honor those lost will take place in partnership with this event at:

- Freedom Square (N. Pine St. & Garden Alley) where all post 9/11 fallen heroes from Bucks County are memorialized
- Moravian Tile Works booth at the Doylestown Arts Fest where people can create tiles to be added to the Freedom Square tile wall
- Travis Manion Foundation Booth at the Doylestown Arts Fest (on N. Main St. between State St. & Court St.) where people can register to run, walk, or ruck in the 9/11 Heroes Run 5K race series.

Doylestown is proud to host this memorial event on 9/11, as Doylestown is the birthplace of Travis Manion Foundation's 9/11 Heroes Run, which has grown to become a National 5K race series with more than 50 locations in-person and virtually across the country and around the world. The race series will unite the community to remember the nearly 3,000 lives lost on 9/11



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every year, as well as honor our veterans, military, and first responders who serve our country and communities.

Registration is now open for participants to run, walk, or ruck, and the race series is expected to draw over 60,000 participants worldwide. TMF has created a touching video to honor the 20th anniversary of 9/11 as an inspiration to attendees of all ages, which can be seen in a short version [here](#) or in a full story cut [here](#).

The 9/11 Heroes Run 5K series was inspired by Marine 1stLt Travis Manion from Doylestown, PA, who was killed by an enemy sniper in Iraq in April 2007 as he selflessly pulled his wounded teammates to safety. Before his final deployment, Travis visited New York City Fire Department Rescue Company 1 - famous for losing almost all of their men on 9/11—and returned home with an even deeper devotion to defending our freedom ahead of his return to Iraq. At its heart, the 9/11 Heroes Run is a personal commitment to never forget the heroes of that day.

"Each and every one of those 10,000 souls deserves to have their name read aloud and the bells tolled on their behalf," said TMF Volunteer Organizer Kenny Bauer. "Especially with what we've witnessed in recent weeks, it has never been more important that we let those who have sacrificed so much over the past 20 years know that we will never forget."

#### **About Travis Manion Foundation:**

Travis Manion Foundation (TMF) unites communities to strengthen America's national character by empowering veterans and families of fallen heroes to develop and lead future generations. In 2007, 1stLt Travis Manion (USMC) was killed in Iraq while saving his wounded teammates. Today, Travis' legacy lives on in the words he spoke before leaving for his final deployment, "If Not Me, Then Who..." Guided by this mantra, veterans continue their service, develop strong relationships with their communities, and thrive in their post-military lives by serving as character role models to youth. As a result, communities prosper and the character of our nation's heroes lives on in the next generation.

The story of 1stLt Travis Manion and his Naval Academy brother LT(SEAL) Brendan Looney have been publicized in the book *Brothers Forever*, and additional information about the Foundation can be found at [www.travismanion.org](http://www.travismanion.org).

**For additional information or to schedule an interview,  
Contact TMF Volunteer Organizer  
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