



# ASSIST's Helping Hand Newsletter

## Terrorism Survivors Helping Survivors

### Terrorism Survivor and Health

By Worley (Lee) Reed

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 66  
JUL TO SEP  
2022

ASSIST is dedicated to helping injured survivors of terrorism with legal, medical and financial assistance based on available organizational funds. ASSIST endeavors to fill the gap between government entitlements and real need.

The American Society for the Support of Injured Survivors of Terrorism, Inc. Newsletter is published quarterly at Lake Wales, FL. The Chief Editor is Bret W Reed, Administrative Officer.

ASSIST is a IRS Approved 501 (c) 3 Public Charity. Contributions and dues are tax deductible as prescribed by law. Please see your tax professional for details.

Please send correspondence to ASSIST, 4371 Dinner Lake Blvd, Lake Wales, Florida 33859-2135

As terrorism survivors, we are primarily focused on our injuries that resulted from the attack. While treating the injuries are the highest priority, one cannot forget to maintain and monitor our entire health.

I have a close friend who is a survivor of an Al Qaeda bombing. He received disabling physical injuries as well as PTSS (PTSD) from the attack. As I previously stated, he spent years directing his attention to the treatment his apparent bombing injuries .

In March 2022, he was diagnosed with melanoma on his back. He was seeing a dermatologist because his wife developed a serious melanoma disease that required hospital surgery. Unlike his wife, the dermatologist removed his cancer in the doctor's office. Due to our normal exposure to the sun, one cannot ignore the possibility of skin cancer after age 65.

My friend and his wife try to maintain their health by



Continued on Page 2

#### ASSIST Board of Directors

W. Lee Reed – Chairman (Nairobi Embassy Bombing)  
Frank Pressley – Vice Chairperson (Nairobi)  
Joyce Reed – Secretary / Treasurer (Nairobi)  
Louise Rogers – Board Director (9/11)  
Ellen Richards — Board Director (Nairobi)  
Yasemin Pressley – Board Director (Nairobi)  
Elliott Adler – Board

Legal Counsel  
Bret Reed—Administrative Officer and Chief Editor  
Telephone: (407) 361-0546  
FAX: (863) 949-4645  
[www.assist-survivors.info](http://www.assist-survivors.info)

We are grateful to the US Department of Justice and the National Organization for Victims Assistance (NOVA) for their support and leadership in the area of victims' rights.

## Terrorism Survivor and Health (Continued)

scheduling annual physicals and taking required immunization shots. In May 2022, he and his wife received the fourth COVID-19 booster shot at a local Publix pharmacy. He expected a mild react to the shot as previously experienced; however, in this case, he suffered severe pain in his left arm where the pharmacy technician gave him the shot. The following day he experienced severe numbness in his entire arm followed by a numbness in the lower half of his arm. The lower half numbness is now permanent. He consulted his doctors about this problem. Since the vaccination is kept at a very low temperature prior to administering the shot, they believe the technician failed to allow sufficient time for the vaccination fluid to reach room temperature. When the extremely cold vaccination was injected into his left arm, it damaged nerves in his arm.

What happened to him is an isolated incident and should not discourage you from receiving COVID-19 vaccinations.

As a result of the nerve damage, he rubs his left arm everyday to ease the pain. In May 2022, he was rubbing his upper arm and noticed a lump in his body. Thinking it was a skin cyst, he visited his dermatologist who sent him to a surgeon. After multiple tests including biopsy, they determined that he had a rare form of cancer. Luckily, he had caught the cancer at an early stage.

While genetics and family history can

play a major part in the risks for rare cancers, the doctors could not rule out the high exposure to organic and inorganic toxic substances he was exposed to in the terrorist attack.

While our apparent terrorist attack injuries are our primary focus, survivors cannot forget there may be hidden injuries and risks that occur later in life. His doctors said that a person's immune system weakens as we age. What our body can easily defend against at 40 years of age may be a serious problem at 65.

The moral to this story is simply do not forget about your entire health. Terrorist survivors can develop rare diseases that can be easily missed in early stages. Any unusual symptom such as sudden shortness of breath or an unexplained pain must be taken seriously my you and your doctor. This type of health problem does not get better with the passage of time, it gets worse.

You can do positive actions to help reduce or eliminate your risks. They are the life style doctors have told us for years. Eat a healthy diet while watching your weight. Get out of the house and exercise in accordance with your age recommendations and current health. If you develop high blood pressure, high cholesterol, etc., then take medication to control it. Also, keep your mental health sound by having a good social life with interests and taking medication for any problems, if necessary. As Spock from Star Trek would say, "**Live Long and Prosper.**" □





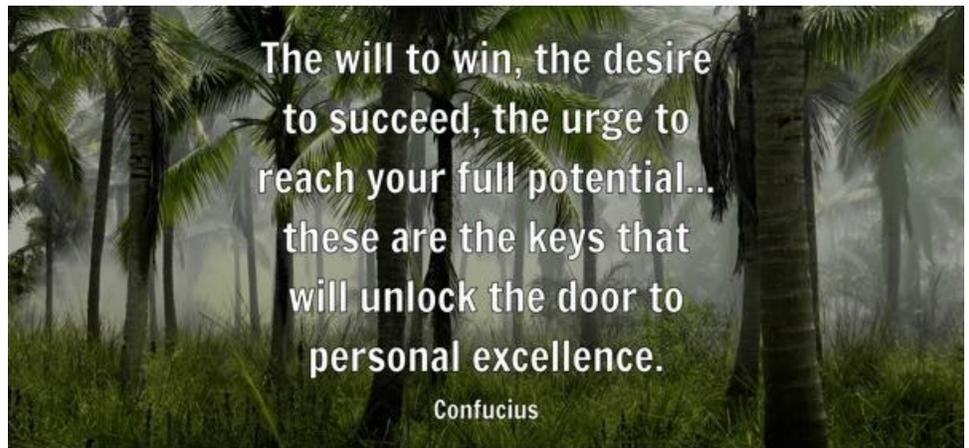
See <https://www.trynova.org/> for more information

# The Good Life Section

This is why you stand for our National Anthem !



Please remember the over one point one million men and women who have died in uniform for us. Also, thank our living Veterans everyday



If you buy from Amazon, please use <https://smile.amazon.com/> and designate The American Society for the Support of Injured Survivors of Terrorism, Inc. as your charity. A small percentage of your purchase will be donated to ASSIST at no cost to you. Thanks to everyone who have already contributed.

## Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken 24th Anniversary Speech on the 1998 East African Embassies Bombings

“Today we solemnly remember the lives — Americans, Kenyans, Tanzanians, and others — that were violently taken from us 24 years ago. The terrorist attacks against our Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania claimed 224 innocent victims and injured more than 4,500 others. Among those we honor are the colleagues the Department lost that day, Americans and Foreign Service Nationals dedicated to strengthening bonds between the United States and our African partners. The victims of these attacks are never far from our minds, and today our thoughts are also with the loved ones they left behind.



Nairobi Embassy

August 7, 1998

In the aftermath of these heinous attacks, America and our partners met cowardice and depravity with courage and determination. The attacks, designed to intimidate us, only reinforced our resolve. And earlier this month, America took decisive action against al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, an architect of the 1998 attacks, making clear once again that we are positioned to act on our determination, which does not wane with time.

Today in South Africa and in the coming days from the region, I will reiterate to our African partners that America remains determined to work with countries of the continent to confront the shared challenges we face, including the scourge of terrorism and violent extremism. As we remember the lives taken from us nearly a quarter century ago, we will continue to demonstrate that those who seek to stand in the way of a better future for our countries will never be able to succeed.”

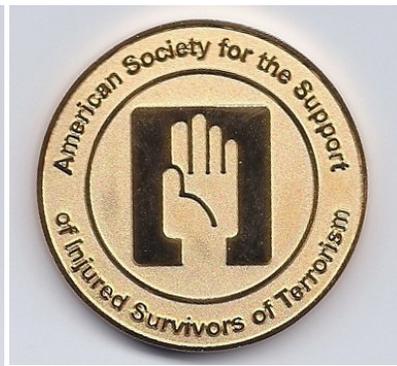
<https://www.state.gov/24th-anniversary-of-the-1998-embassy-bombings/>



## ASSIST

### Memorabilia

The ASSIST memorabilia below are available from ASSIST, 4371 Dinner Lake Blvd, Lake Wales, Florida 33859. Please add \$4.50 to your total order for shipping and handling. All profits from the sales of items goes to support terrorism survivors.



ASSIST Coin (front and back) \$10.00

ASSIST Lapel Pin \$4.00



ASSIST Hat Adjustable \$10.00



ASSIST T-Shirt \$10.00 S/M/L/XL Based on Availability of Size

## ASSIST Calendar

Jul 4—Independence Day

Jul 13—nine U.S. soldiers and at least 15 NATO troops die when Taliban militants boldly attack an American base in Kumar Province, which borders Pakistan 2008

Aug 7—East African Embassy Bombings 1998

Aug 18-19—15 suicide bombers attack US troops in Afghanistan 2008

Sep 5—Labor Day

Sep 11—9/11 2001

Sep 11—Benghazi, Libya: militants armed with anti-aircraft weapons and rocket-propelled grenades fire upon the American consulate, killing U.S. ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and three other em-

bassy officials. 2012

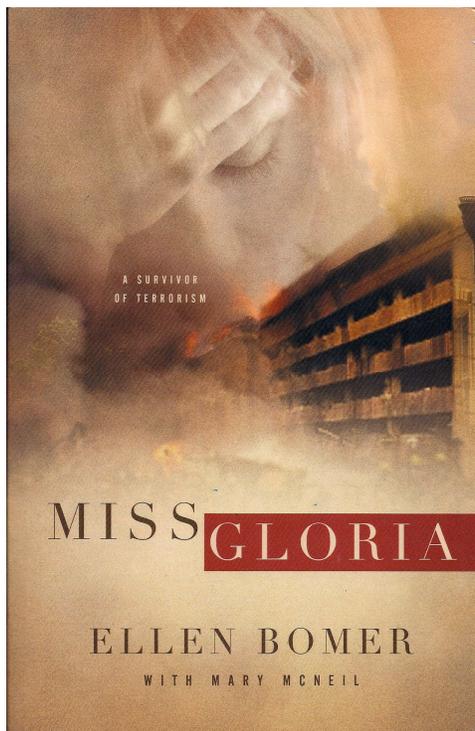
Sep 13—Attack on US Embassy, Damascus, Syria by 4 gunmen stopped by DSS and local guards 2006

Sep 16—Bombing in New York City by suspected Communists 1920

Sep 16—Yemen: a car bomb and a rocket strike the U.S. embassy in Yemen as staff arrived to work, killing 16 people, including 4 civilians. 2008

Sep 20—Beirut US Embassy Annex Bombing 1984

Note: If we inadvertently omit an important date, please contact us and we will correct it.



Miss Gloria details the struggles and triumphs of a wonderful lady blinded by the Al Qaeda attack on the United States Embassy, Nairobi, Kenya on August 7, 1998. We highly recommend this book as a must-read.

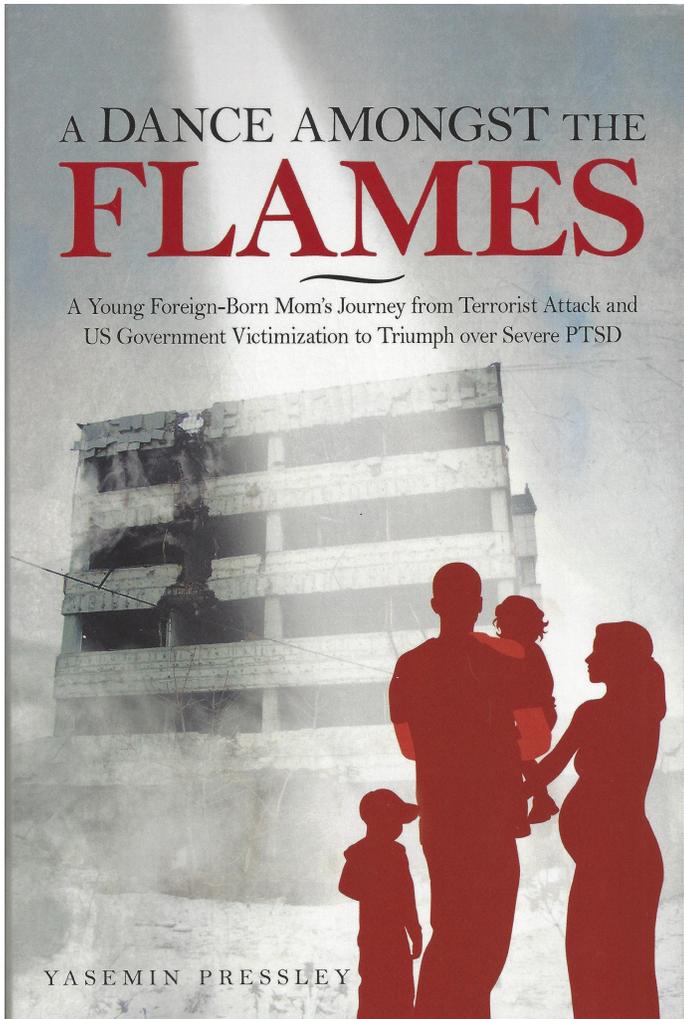
The book is available from the publisher: Redemption Press, 1730 Railroad St, Enumclaw, WA 98022 [www.redemption-press.com](http://www.redemption-press.com) as well as on Amazon Dot Com. [http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Gloria-Terrorism-Ellen-Bomer/dp/1414113668/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1431978093&sr=8-3&keywords=Miss+Gloria](http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Gloria-Terrorism-Ellen-Bomer/dp/1414113668/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1431978093&sr=8-3&keywords=Miss+Gloria)



If you are seeking someone to help you manage your terrorism compensation or other funds, UBS has helped us find creative and safe investments. Our contact is Ms. Holiday Hayes, telephone: (202) 585-5372.

This is an unpaid endorsement by the ASSIST Staff, and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ASSIST Board or ASSIST membership.

ASSIST has a new website:  
[WWW.ASSIST-SURVIVORS.INFO](http://WWW.ASSIST-SURVIVORS.INFO) . It is  
now fully operational.



BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

Ten percent of the proceeds from this book go directly to organizations that honor the injured American military women and men, from their darkest days to every step of their recovery. We need to do all we can to protect their family union and the future of their children.

---

Yasemin, a young Muslim Turkish girl, falls in love with a handsome American named Frank in Ankara, Turkey. After they marry and have two children, Yasemin joins her husband working at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya.

She can sense that her lifelong dreams are finally within reach. But external forces were set in motion to derail her plans - terrorists bombed the American Embassy in Nairobi on August 7th, 1998, while she and her husband are inside.

Frank is critically injured and flown to Germany for hospitalization. Yasemin follows with her family, physically unharmed but severely suffering from the effects of PTSD. It is then that she is confirmed pregnant with their third child, with Frank on death's doorsteps.

What follows is a tale of grief and struggle, but also of tremendous joy. From her diagnosis and struggle with PTSD treatments to Frank's physical therapy and abandonment by the State Department, Yasemin's story winds between betrayal and renewal as she searches for meaning in her new circumstances, and ultimately turns to God.

---



Yasemin was born in Ankara, Turkey, where she spent her formative years with her family and met her husband, Frank. She has a degree in urban planning. Yasemin volunteers as a leader in a Christian organization, which leads women from all backgrounds to God. Yasemin and Frank have three children together and reside in the southern United States.

ISBN 978-0-578-58151-4  
5 1895  
9 780578 581514

*A Dance Amongst the Flames* is a highly recommended new book about the unique experiences of a terrorism survivor. The book is available at your local bookstore or through Amazon® at [https://www.amazon.com/Dance-Amongst-Flames-Foreign-Born-Victimization/dp/0578581515/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=20YC01N2RX455&keywords=a+dance+amongst+the+flames+by+yasemin+pressley&qid=1576686264&prefix=A+Dance+Am%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Dance-Amongst-Flames-Foreign-Born-Victimization/dp/0578581515/ref=sr_1_1?crid=20YC01N2RX455&keywords=a+dance+amongst+the+flames+by+yasemin+pressley&qid=1576686264&prefix=A+Dance+Am%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1) . A preview of the book can be found on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikt9Hk01818> .

The American Society for the  
Support of Injured Survivors of  
Terrorism, Inc.  
4371 Dinner Lake Blvd  
Lake Wales, FL 33859-2135

Phone: 407-361-0546  
Fax: 863-949-4645  
E-mail: [wreed3@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:wreed3@tampabay.rr.com)  
[www.assist-survivors.info](http://www.assist-survivors.info)

Terrorism Survivors Helping Survivors



**WE ARE ON THE WEB!**

[WWW.ASSIST-  
SURVIVORS.INFO](http://WWW.ASSIST-SURVIVORS.INFO)

Nonprofit Org. US Postage Paid Lakeland, FL Permit No. 265
--

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**The Helping Hand** is published by email. If you know someone who should receive a copy of our newsletter, please either forward it to her/him or print it out for them. This publication is free and not subject to sale or resale. If you either wish to be added to our email list or want to be removed from it, please email us at [wreed3@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:wreed3@tampabay.rr.com).  
Note: The opinions expressed here by the authors are his or her own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ASSIST Board and membership. □