NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document



Cory Lum for The New York Times

Among those in Hawaii who lost relatives or colleagues in the attack on the World Trade Center are Anne McCann, who lost her husband, Tommy, with the couple's children, Courtney, 16, and Sean, 13.

thing they had looked forward to since Sept. 11. Hawaii's tourism industry planned and paid for dozens of activities for them.

Sunset cruises filled up fast and inter-island flights on Aloha Airlines drew crowds. There were museums, trolley rides, water park passes and surfing lessons given by Honolulu firefighters.

Christopher Gardner, 6, of Oceanside, N.Y., briefly considered the surfing lessons — and then had second thoughts.

"He's afraid of sharks," said his mother, Liz, whose husband, Thomas, was a hazardous materials worker.

The McCanns rented a white Firebird convertible and after breakfast one morning at the Kahala Mandarin Oriental Hotel, swam with dolphins in the hotel's lagoon.

"It's cool," said Sean, who stroked the belly of a dolphin named Hiiaka. "She's soft, not slimy."

And everywhere the New Yorkers went, people seemed to gravitate to them.

Chief Pfeifer merely thought about renting body boards for his family in Waikiki when the woman behind the beach stand realized he was a New York firefighter and told him not to worry about paying.

All the hoopla and loving attention will make wonderful memories, many of the visitors said. But the good wishes and warm breezes can only do so much.

"I feel silly sprinkling this urn, because it's not really him," Mrs. McCann said. "I hope they find something of him. I just want his coat. I just want something."

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