

Farmer, Jarrell, Texas

"That sky was as black as night, just boiling. It was like a big bull getting ready to charge. Seemed like it sat there for ten minutes, making its mind up which way to go. After an eerie silence, there was a loud roaring, like several trains coming through the house, and then there was a wind like I've never seen before. We had heard the tornado warning so unlike some crazies who went out to follow it we got down into our shelter in the basement.

I still get nightmares now, but ordinary people from across the country were fantastic - they gave more than a million dollars in aid. I hear that insurance claims could reach \$100 million after damage from this twister, which is not good news - insurance premiums have already gone up by about 75% around here. I suppose these insurance companies are in business to make money and that's hard to do when you're getting hit with big losses. I don't really hold that against them; I just wish they would spread it out a little more evenly."

Sometimes times are good, and sometimes you find an old tree and go out and cry a little. Much of my farm machinery has been trashed into mangled steel. But I'm going to go home and sit down and have a damn good drink and say 'Hey, you got through this'".