



During the week after the events of September 11, 2001, I was moved to express myself the only way I know how...through my artwork. Seeing people displaying the American flag in a way I had never seen before along with the actions of my son were an emotional inspiration.

After telling us he needed to do something for his country and especially himself, our son, Zach, signed up for the Marine Reserves in 1999. Now it was September 12, 2001, and he was coming in the door carrying his gear, proud to be a Marine, knowing he would soon be called. As Zach organized his equipment I knew he was ready to serve his country.

The next four days I spent creating this painting from the images of people united together waving the red, white and blue colors and the thoughts of my son and his commitment to our country and the American flag.

When I presented the finished painting to Zach on September 17th, I could see the pride in his face not only because I had painted it, but because it is a symbol he holds dear to his heart. His immediate suggestion was that we have limited edition prints made of the painting and donate the proceeds to the American Red Cross. It was with great admiration for Zach that I agreed to follow through with his idea. How could I turn down my son.

Zach has since spent 6 months in Iraq defending our right to freedom and returned home safely to start a family of his own.

Thank you for purchasing this limited edition print. Please keep on praying for all of America's sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, and mothers and fathers in the military.

*Fred Swarr*

