

SUBJECT: Covid-19
DATE: 3/1/20

My senior year of college I went to Hawaii for spring break with my mother & grandmother. I left school a day early with the intention of returning a week later, but that never happened. I got news of schools shutting down about 2 days before I left Hawaii. I thought of staying longer but I didn't want to wait to find out if flights would be canceled. I didn't sit down in the airport waiting to board my flight & I tried to stay away from people as much as I could. Not long after I returned there was a curfew put into place and Governor Evers put a mask mandate in place. This meant we couldn't go into any stores or indoor public areas without a mask. I didn't really leave my house that often at all. Only for groceries. A good majority of my 2nd semester was online schooling. There was a lot of confusion about what was going to happen for graduation. Would there be one? would it be virtual? would it be drive-by? Graduation was pushed back so far that instead of it being at the end of May it happened July 9th. It ended up being partly a drive-by. We all gathered in our cars (only 1 car per family) and went in a line to our school. When we reached the doors

to my high school, my family + I got out, walked through the commons area to the auditorium. There I walked across the stage + only my principal was on stage. The only people in the auditorium were my family members, the photographer, and teachers sat in the very back to cheer for us. It was a pretty dull experience but I still got my diploma.

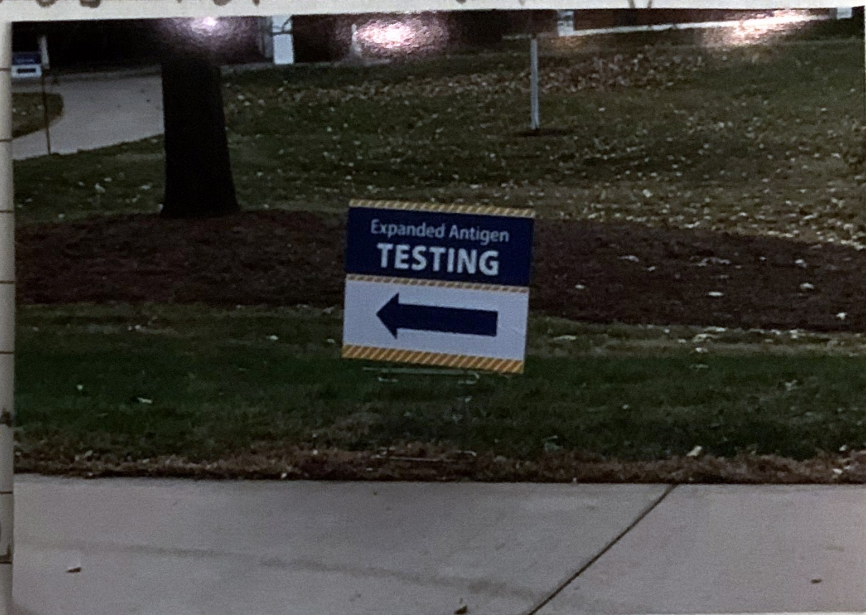


Not long after Graduation came move in day for college. I'm about to finish my 1st semester. It is nothing like it was

supposed to be. We had to wear masks in class, some classes were fully online, you only met about $\frac{1}{3}$ of your classmates because you only went to in-person class 1 day a week. It was difficult to make friends. Not many parties happened of any kind and if you went you were considered a fool. If you got sick at all you were put in the "Plaque Hall" as we called it. Even if you tested negative for the corona virus they still kept you there a couple more days.

If you got sick your roommate also had to go to Plaque Hall. Your entire floor was quarantined for several days. To help with tracing you had to sit in the same spots for class. I had a lab that required us to go in cars. We had assigned seats in the cars too. Another thing they had us do was antigen testing. The actual covid test was not mandatory, but this was.

Honestly, the antigen test wasn't that bad, at least for most people. They had you blow your nose into a tissue.



then they stuck a swab up your nose and moved it around. It wasn't painful, but for someone like me, it was still less than fun because my nose is sensitive. I kept sneezing on my entire way back to my dorm. Some people looked & laughed, while others looked like I just killed their puppy. It's now almost Thanksgiving & they are letting us stay home to avoid traveling & spreading it back & forth.