

In This Together

Documenting COVID-19 in the Commonwealth

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Biography: As staff, I teach short courses at UK. I'm at an age where I can retire, but I continue to teach because I love to see those "aha" moments in students. We have 2 dogs, two sisters, Snoopy and Dooby. They really love it that we have been home since March 13. I think that they have kept us (my husband and I) sane, encompassing us with their unconditional love. I finished graduate school in 1983 with a PhD in Human Reproductive Physiology. My work life included directing labs for human infertility, a pharmaceutical company and now teaching. I attached a word document, but I can forward the actual photograph if you wish. I dabble in painting once in a while and I'm a complete amateur. Thanks.

COVID-19 Experience: I teach at UK as staff, and was furloughed (administrative non-pay status) for 3 months. Initially, the news was shocking and stressful, but I managed with the love of my husband (my best friend) and our two sweet dogs Snoopy and Dooby. To relieve stress, I started to make cotton masks and paint. Basically I keep busy. COVID-19 is still an abstract concept, as I haven't lost anyone near or dear. I dread the day I face COVID-19 directly or indirectly before we find a cure or a vaccine. Until then, I don't want to lose my humanity in the sea of morbidity data. We are of retirement age and teach because we want to. I really enjoy seeing the "aha" moments on students' faces. We also love to travel. I'm hopeful that we'll be able to resume in-class teaching and travel soon.

Our dogs Snoopy and Dooby encircle us with their love, while we are home. Snoopy and Dooby are sisters from the same litter. Snoopy is white speckled with grey, brown and black. Dooby is brindle (brown and black). One can see stitches on her belly. She had just had surgery (and is fine). My husband (Sumit Das) and I both teach at UK. We've been home (more or less, 3 trips to UK, 2 trips to the vet) since March 13. Location – home.