

## A Diabetic's Quarantine

As COVID-19 affected the whole world, many had to adapt to the new life that was created because of this new virus. Similar to others, my life and my family's lives were affected heavily because of COVID-19. My father is a pharmacist at Boston Medical Center, and he continued to go into Boston to work at his pharmacy during the pandemic's early stages in the United States. My mother owns her own cleaning business; however, she did not consider the business to be essential, and she stayed home with my brother and I. As a Type 1 diabetic, COVID-19 changed my way of life in March and today and possibly the future. It was unfortunate that I could not see some of my friends because I was afraid that I would contract the virus. Knowing that I could not see my friends during the first weeks of quarantine, I had to find hobbies and activities to keep busy. School kept me incredibly busy throughout quarantine. In my senior year, I was in five AP classes, and studying for five AP tests virtually proved to be a struggle. One class that I found to be incredibly hard through Zoom was my AP Calculus class. Math is hard in person with a teacher; however, math through Zoom is virtually (no pun intended) impossible for me. I was glad that I had an amazing teacher who helped me and took some time out of his own life to help me recap on any material I found confusing.

My family and I decided to create a small shrine for our family dog who died last year. As a family, we thought this was a great time to remember a family dog that has been with us for so long. Our dog was named Rocky, and he died when he was 13 years old. Rocky was a Chilean Poodle-Maltese breed. We bought Rocky in a Chilean adoption store near Santiago, the capital of Chile. Although his passing did hurt the family, we were proud that he could live a wonderful life in the United States with a loving family. The way I look at his life is that he lived a very long life for a Chilean dog. If you go to Chile, many dogs are treated poorly, malnourished, and

abandoned. To see these dogs abused and lonely is truly heartbreaking. I am very glad he could live a peaceful life with us. With the help of a family friend, she painted a beautiful painting of Rocky. I am very happy with my family and I could do this during the quarantine.

