



Families commemorate the four-year anniversary of Covid by recalling flags on the Mall.

Description

When Nicholas Montemarano's parents contracted covid a few days before Christmas 2020, his primary concern leaned towards his father due to his existing health complications. For his 79-year-old mother, Catherine Montemarano, doctors initially prescribed steroids and antibiotics. However, an escalation in her fever led to her admittance to an Indiana hospital on New Year's Eve.

Catherine's health showed a brief improvement on January 6, 2021; however, it quickly deteriorated, pushing doctors towards suggesting palliative care. The news drove Nicholas to embark on a 600-mile journey from his home in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, amidst the chaos happening at the U.S. Capitol.

On January 15, Nicholas and his twin sister, a nurse, were given permission to envelope themselves in personal protective equipment and accompany their mother in her final hours. Nicholas expressed that their presence eased the unimaginable pain of losing their mother.

A funeral mass was held, attended by 10 family members including Nicholas's wife and son. Known for her Catholic faith, Catherine, a legal secretary, also supported foster children worldwide, sending them photos and letters.

Months later, Nicholas discovered a virtual support group that featured a **commemorative** flag project. He registered a flag and embarked on a trip to Washington D.C with his family. The sight of the installation and death toll sign sparked uncontrollable tears, which didn't cease until he found his mother's flag. This experience gave Nicholas and his family a sense of closure and shared mourning.

Following his mother's passing, Nicholas, a creative writing professor and published novelist, wrote a memoir, "If There Are Any Heavens," which was published in July 2022. Reflecting on the experience, he acknowledged the irreparable loss of losing a loved one.

Vocabulary Words and Definitions:

- Contracted**: In a medical context, contracted refers to catching or developing an illness or disease.
- Admittance**: Admittance technically means being allowed to enter a place. In the context of healthcare, it often refers to being admitted to a hospital for treatment.
- Palliative Care**: This is a specialized medical care that focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness. The primary goal is to improve the quality of life for both the patient and the family.
- Commemorative**: Something that is done to remember officially and give respect to a great person or event.
- Memoir**: A memoir is a book that someone writes about their own life. It is generally less comprehensive and more anecdotal than an autobiography.



Vocabulary List:

1. **Contracted** // (verb): Catching or developing an illness or disease.
2. **Admittance** // (noun): Being allowed to enter a place especially in the context of healthcare being admitted to a hospital for treatment.
3. **Palliative Care** // (noun): A specialized medical care that focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness with the primary goal of improving the quality of life for both the patient and the family.
4. **Commemorative** // (adjective): Something that is done to remember officially and give respect to a great person or event.
5. **Memoir** // (noun): A book that someone writes about their own life often less comprehensive and more anecdotal than an autobiography.
6. **Escalation** // (noun): A rapid increase or intensification usually in the negative sense such as a worsening of a situation.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which medication is commonly used to treat nerve pain?
Option: Pregabalin
Option: Escalation
Option: Hygiene
Option: Concomitant
2. What process involves making an individual immune to a particular disease?
Option: Inequitable
Option: Immunisation
Option: Samples
Option: Dependence
3. Which term describes something likely to cause disagreement or argument?
Option: Commemorative
Option: Contentious
Option: Consolidated
Option: Wirings
4. What term refers to a revival or increase after a period of little activity?
Option: Hygiene
Option: Resurgence



- Option: Samples
- Option: Inequitable

5. Which word means having a quality or feature that makes something easily recognizable?

- Option: Boost
- Option: Dependence
- Option: Distinctive
- Option: Inequitable

6. What term describes something that requires great effort and determination to deal with?

- Option: Dependence
- Option: Samples
- Option: Challenging
- Option: Pregabalin

7. Which term means to make something denser or more viscous?

- Option: Consolidated
- Option: Inequitable
- Option: Thicken
- Option: Hygiene

8. What term refers to the state of relying on or being controlled by something?

- Option: Dependence
- Option: Wirings
- Option: Palliative Care
- Option: Controlling

9. Which word means reduced in size or pulled together?

- Option: Immunisation
- Option: Contracted
- Option: Underestimated
- Option: Cavalier

10. What term means to make something physically stronger or more solid?

- Option: Immunisation
- Option: Resurgence
- Option: Consolidated
- Option: Challenging

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)



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11. A _____ is a historical account or biography written from personal knowledge.
 12. The chef's _____ attitude towards food safety led to hygiene issues in the restaurant.
 13. The laboratory technician collected blood _____ from the patients for analysis.
 14. Regular exercise can provide a natural _____ to your immune system.
 15. Proper _____ practices are essential in preventing the spread of infections.
 16. The distribution of resources was deemed completely _____ by the committee.
 17. The electrician checked the _____ in the building to identify the faulty connection.
 18. The conflict led to an _____ of violence in the region.
 19. The politician's speech resonated with the concerns of the _____.
 20. The doctor noticed an _____ in the test results that required further investigation.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)



21. Some people develop a psychological on substances like alcohol or drugs.
22. The opponent's skills were severely leading to a surprising defeat.
23. The misuse of harmful can lead to serious health consequences.
24. The government implemented strict measures aimed at the spread of the disease.
25. The decision-making process is influenced by the activities of the in the brain.
26. Patients with terminal illnesses may benefit from the support provided by services.
27. The city erected a statue as a tribute to the fallen war heroes.
28. The laboratory requires blood and tissue for diagnostic testing.
29. The electrician carefully inspected the building's electrical for any faults.
30. Adding flour to the sauce will help to it for a richer texture.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Pregabalin 2. Immunisation 3. Contentious 4. Resurgence 5. Distinctive 6. Challenging 7. Thicken 8. Dependence 9. Contracted 10. Consolidated

Gap-Fill: 11. Memoir 12. Cavalier 13. Samples 14. Boost 15. Hygiene 16. Inequitable 17. Wirings 18. Escalation 19. Populace 20. Abnormality

Matching sentence: 1. Dependence 2. Underestimated 3. Substances 4. Controlling 5. Prefrontal cortex 6. Palliative Care 7. Commemorative 8. Samples 9. Wirings 10. Thicken

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4

Date Created

2024/03/17

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