

Why did we choose to get the Covid vaccine? There were many reasons but one is the fact that our doctors, who we have trusted through several life threatening medical issues, suggested we needed to roll up our sleeves and get the vaccine. I am a two time cancer survivor, having beaten breast cancer and pancreatic cancer. My husband is a type II diabetic who went through quadruple by-pass surgery a few years ago.

We quarantined when it was suggested. We wear masks when we do go out in public, wash our hands repeatedly and keep our safe distances. We have missed seeing family and going to gatherings with relatives. Not being able to watch our grandkids' sporting events and their other activities has been hard. They change so quickly when they're young. Planned vacations have been cancelled. We have missed visiting with our friends. Yes, there's social media and phone calls but it's not the same as face to face time. We've missed hugs!

At first, we didn't know anyone who had Covid but as the year went on, we've known plenty. Symptoms have varied but one relative died. Not being able to see people in nursing homes and hospitals has been painful and harmful for both patients and their families. Not being able to attend funerals not only denies closure but also leaves families without that much needed support they need at a critical time.

I was a teacher and we have two daughters who are teachers. This last year has been extremely hard on kids, their families and the educational staffs. School is hard enough without the added stress Covid has piled on everyone.

So, looking back, I'd say we got the vaccine because we want everything to go back to "normal" as soon as possible. The sooner the numbers go down, the sooner "normal" can return.

Chris and Richard Well