



"One Day in May"

(May 15, 2020)

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Class Year: 2007

Connection to the College (student? faculty? alum? friend of the College?): Alumnus/alumna

Describe your day today -- did you go out? what did you do for fun? did you cook or eat anything special? did you do work or chores? who did you spend time with?

The forecast called for rain, but this morning the sun was out and the birds were chirping. I started my morning by viewing an online broadcast of last week's church service. I didn't have a chance to watch it on Sunday, so I figured I could fit it in before the day really got going. Within the first 15 minutes my four year old son joined me. So much for a little quiet time. My husband was up a little later and after getting himself ready, he left for work. He works at a bank, so he is considered an essential employee and has gone into work every day during the pandemic. Once the church service was over, I turned on a tv show for my four year old. I let the dog out and then went upstairs to get my 21 month old twins girls ready for the day. I made breakfast for all of the kids and let them eat while they watched a show, Wild Kratts, so at least they are learning about animals. Really this is the only way I can ensure they eat their food and I have a little more freedom to make coffee and my own breakfast.

Once my coffee and breakfast were ready, I could finally start working. I have a full time job with the Indiana Department of Education. Before COVID-19, I would work from home three days a week. So working from home wasn't an adjustment. The adjustment was learning how to work while all three kids are home with me. I still haven't figured it out. I can't easily take phone calls and I have to strategically plan meetings during the girls' nap time. Since they are so young, their attention spans are short, they ask for a lot of help, and they require a lot of attention. Today was a really rough day. I think everyone has been cooped up too long together. It has been raining off and on for the past few days, so we haven't been able to go outside. The girls were fussy, getting into everything they weren't supposed to, and just difficult. My four year old was equally stir crazy, having a hard time listening and fighting with his sisters. I could barely focus on my work because I was spending so much time breaking up fights or trying to find ways to entertain the kids (without just turning on more tv).

Thankfully my husband got off of work early (5 pm instead of 6:30 pm). When he gets home these days we are all so excited to see him. I think the kids are just happy to see someone other than myself, and I am excited to have another adult around. For a change of pace and a breath of fresh air, we decided to go out to eat for dinner. The weather was absolutely perfect. So we all loaded into the van and drove to a restaurant that was providing carry-out. We got our food, drove to a nearby park and ate our food in the car with the windows down. That is how we "dine out" these days. When we got back home we played some fun toddler tunes and had a little dance party even though it was way past the kids' bedtimes. Once all of the kids were in bed, I picked up the house and then vegged out to some of my own tv. This weekend I will catch up on the work I couldn't take care of today.

What do you remember best about being on campus in May of other years?

Oh my goodness, Hanover in May is the best. I vividly remember all of the trees and shrubs flowering. I loved focusing on only one class the entire month. I fondly remember having class outdoors on the

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really beautiful days, the special field trips and events that the professors would plan, and just the relaxed way to fully immerse myself in one subject. If I had to go back in time to my college years, I would definitely go back to May!

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