

Do What You Have To Do

By Marvin Milich

We all know this expression very well, but never has it had more meaning to me than during this pandemic. Things I never thought I could do, I did. Things that I thought I could not live without, I did.

As a college professor for several decades, I was never a fan of “on line” courses. I thought the classroom experience was essential for meaningful learning, and to so some extent, I still do. However, the pandemic made that impossible, so I did what I had to do. I learned a whole new method of teaching remotely, something I never thought was possible in the twilight years of my teaching career. To my surprise, it has been fairly effective, and although I look forward to returning to the classroom next semester, it was not the disaster I anticipated.



I never thought I could live without live sports for five months, but I had no choice. I did what I had to do, and survived. I became an avid reader for the first time in my life. Adding a little binge watching on Netflix and Amazon adequately filled that void.

My biggest surprise is spending so much more time at home with my bride Judi, and loving it. Although I am still thankfully playing tennis several times a week, we have never in our over sixteen years of marriage spent this much time together. I relish bringing her tea and crackers in bed every morning, cooking dinners on the barbeque several times a week, watching television together, or just sitting on the couch together reading our respective books. We did what we had to do, but it has made us closer.

Now as we approach the holidays, we are again faced with the task of doing what we have to do. Services will differ, but hopefully they will be just as meaningful. A Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

Marvin Milich, a real estate attorney and CPA, has been a member of TBT for the past 25 years. He was a former member of the Board of Trustees, and Chair of Budget & Finance. Together with his wife, the former Judi Kaplan, they live in Dix Hills and devote much of their time to their six children and 12 grandchildren.