

Coronavirus came like an assassin in the night. No word of warning. No air raid siren to raise the alarm. Fast and silent — armed with a swarm of uncertainty, inflicting a pain we have not yet experienced before. Determined and complex... merciless and unwavering. Cold, loveless and without fear. And at the exact same speed, we responded. We as a country... a nation... a planet. A global community, erasing the lines we once drew in the sand to come together in combat against our mutual enemy. We rallied up. Knuckled down. Got food to those who were hungry. Medicine to those who were sick. We closed our doors and turned the lock with love for one another — letting the predator know that ours were homes in which it was not welcome. Our military uniforms turned blue. Helmets became masks. We swapped guns for gloves... traded tanks for food trucks, mail vans and ambulances. We pooled resources and talent. Put our heads together and fought faster than ever before to find a solution. We live among heroes, striding boldly into hospitals where the unknown lies around every corner and dread stands in every doorway. But they meet that dread with a spirit that no virus could ever take away. They meet it with grit, compassion and pride. They meet it with humanity.

And as we watch life as we knew it take its place in the history books of tomorrow — it'll be that humanity that leads us fearlessly into the next chapter. The pen is in our hands. So let's rebuild our abode in a way that only we can. With bricks made of bravery, and the mortar of mankind. Fear may be waiting for us, but it will not beat us. We, the people, will survive.