AGUILAR, ROAN DARRYL C. CPE – 402

I remember when everything just shut down. It was a weird feeling. My life went from being busy and out all the time to just being stuck in my house. At first, I was so bored. But then, things at home started to change. I actually started talking to my family, not just saying a quick hello. We cooked meals together, and I learned some of my mom's recipes. We found a way to be strong and get through it together, just us.

But it was also a very scary time. The news was on all day, and it was always bad. It hit me that life can change in a second and that we are not as in control as we think. Anyone could get sick. That experience made me different. Now, I try not to worry about little problems. I try to enjoy the simple, good parts of my day. I call my friends more often. The pandemic taught me to appreciate today.