



Birthday blowout marks remarkable recovery at KP Irvine

A few days ago, a 46 year-old woman blew out her birthday candles. If you think that's not so special, consider that she had just been released from Kaiser Permanente Irvine Medical Center...following three weeks of treatment for COVID-19.

Pre-social distancing

Chriselda Davis developed mild flu-like symptoms soon after visiting her church in mid-March, before social distancing was in effect. Her symptoms worsened over time, and she tested positive for COVID-19 (as did numerous other church-goers, she would later learn). On March 28 Chriselda was admitted to the medical center where she was diagnosed with pneumonia and Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome.

Two days later she was sedated and intubated, while her husband Tony maintained a constant prayer vigil. KP staff stayed connected with him via video app, keeping him updated of Chriselda's status. After steadily recovering over 11 long days, she was at last extubated. And on April 13, Chriselda left the hospital, to the joyous applause of the caring KP staff lining the halls.

An emotional moment

"It was an emotional moment for everyone, but also a moment that swelled our hearts with pride," said Ruby Gill, DNP, chief nurse executive, Kaiser Permanente Orange County.

Double Miracles

Now home and focused on recovery, summoning the breath to blow out a candle is an unusually emotional moment. Chriselda and Tony (who survived a life-endangering trauma years ago) are grateful for the extraordinary care she received at KP, and for every day they have. Today they count themselves doubly fortunate...or maybe 46 times. Happy birthday Chriselda, and many, many happy returns. More in this [news story](#).