

January 4 to 24, 2020

January 4: I left my sit in Ahwatukee, Chandler, AZ for these pups:



Olive and her sister Lena: 16 years old. Olive is partially paralyzed but can walk with her hind legs stiff and straight out. Lena still has a bounce to her step.

Charlie is a Mastiff



Stella was my favorite. More of a thinker and companion.

Their parents were coming back that evening from Mexico. I Uber'd to Sky Harbor Airport and flew to John Wayne, Orange County Airport where my next client picked me up.

Marilyn and Ira live in Yorba Linda and were leaving the next day on a tropical cruise. Their dog kids were:



Lady, the Cocker Spaniel, who is elderly, deaf and totally absorbed with her tennis ball and Stanley (above) who is also quite old but clearly the thinker and much easier to care for.

The last week, I had a medical scare with Lady and ended up at the vet's office. She had been panting, not eating or playing and seemed in pain. She was put on 48 hours of crate rest and once the meds kicked in, she was right back to chasing her tennis ball in the back yard.

Lady is either not real bright or very, very smart. She would put the ball somewhere she couldn't retrieve it from (a plant in a pot too tall for her to reach the ball in the bottom) or an indoor toy under the couch, then bark until I got up to help and subsequently throw for her to chase. Smart, right? But she'd do it even when I was sitting there waiting for her to bring it to me to throw again.

While at Marilyn's house, she allowed me to use her car. My two eldest grand kids were still out of school and at home in Orange County, so I bought an escape room session on Groupon. I got them, their boyfriends, my eldest daughter (their mom) and my daughter from San Diego, that granddaughter and her friend to all converge near the Honda Center (dinner first) and then around the corner to the Immersion Escape Room. The kids pretty much did all the work, but I always have fun being with them.



Isabella, Kadin, Linda, me, Carey, Megan, Colton, Kanan and Lauren

January 24th, I picked Marilyn and Ira up at LAX and Ira later dropped me at my motel near John Wayne. I had a very early flight the next day and always prefer to be closer to the airport and sleep in as late as possible.