

May 29, 2011

Dear Young People,

Don't be afraid to answer a question with the answer, "I don't know." Be honest; your word is the most valuable commodity you will ever own. Treat other people the way you would want to be treated. Practice listening; people rarely tell you what they most want you to know in their first sentence. The right choice is usually the hard one. Trust your instincts. Trust your instincts. Wear sunblock, wear ear protection, wear sunglasses; middle- and old-age seems a long way away, but you'll be very glad you did. Don't put your cell phone right next to your face—use a Bluetooth or speakerphone. Keep it turned off as much as possible when it's on your body, they emit constant radiation, When you're troubled, go for a long walk. Remember that things look better in the morning. Tell your family and friends you appreciate them. Register to vote, change the world. Trust your instincts.

Sincerely,

Rick Bass
Yaak, Montana

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Bass". The signature is written in dark ink and is followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.