

GEORGE BUSH
Presidential Library
and Museum

June 5, 2001

Dear Virtual Visitor,

Thank you for visiting the George Bush Presidential Library Center. I hope you enjoyed every minute of your time here.

You wanted to know what advice about the future I would give to my grandchildren. This question recalls for me the commencement address I gave at Wellesley College in 1990.

Among the things I would tell my grandchildren are the things I told the graduates that June day—that I hope they will consider making three very special choices in their lives. The first is to believe in something larger than yourself...to get involved in some of the big ideals of your time.

The second is about life, that it must have joy. It's supposed to be fun! One of the reasons I decided to marry George is because he made me laugh. It's true, sometimes we've laughed through our tears. But that shared laughter has been one of our strongest bonds.

The third choice that must not be missed is to cherish your human connections—your relationships with friends and family. Beyond your obligations in your work or profession, your human connections are the most important investments you will ever make. At the end of your life, you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict, or not closing one more deal. You will regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent.

I certainly have been blessed in my own life with wise and dear people who shared these lessons with me, and I could wish nothing better for my own grandchildren than to consciously make such choices for their own lives.

With all best wishes,



Barbara Bush