

Dear RTI Student,

Congratulations on your choice to pursue the honorable career in Emergency Medical Training. You have embarked on a life-long journey of continuous learning, of developing skills and techniques that will help you to ease suffering and save lives. Be proud of this pursuit, it is one of the highest calling.

With your training, you will have the opportunity to intervene in situations when people are at their most vulnerable- when they are afraid, injured or ill. There are not many people outside of emergency healthcare services who will see and understand life the same way as you have the opportunity to experience. Hand in hand with your professional pursuits, you are developing a more complete understanding of human existence, and an appreciation for human life. These are experiences that will have influence throughout your life, even when you are not “on the streets.”

I would like to share an excerpt from Norman Maclean’s excellent book, *Yong Men and Fire*,

“IT IS LIKE THAT IN THE WOODS and even in the wide world generally—the rescue of men and women, alive or dead, come first. ...most people think they can be of help, and some even seem born to rescue others, as poets think they are. The best of them goof, especially at first, because only a few have the opportunity to keep in practice. Then as they catch on again they become beautiful in performance if one can step back for a moment and look. Almost as beautiful when, having completed their job of deposing death, they fade into complete anonymity. ...one of the finest things men and women do is rescue men and women, even when they know they are rescuing the dead....”

If you have clinical questions, or are having trouble figuring something out, please feel free to contact me. drmitch@rescue1.com

Warmest Regards,

Mitch Maulfair, DO
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