

## Biography

Rick Just is a native Idahoan passionate about our state's history. His great grandparents came here in 1863, a few weeks after Idaho became a territory, and the Justs have been here ever since.

Rick started in broadcasting while still in high school. He spent two years as an NCO in the Marine Corps, where he produced audio news releases and edited the base newsletter. He worked at Southeastern Idaho and Boise radio stations for about 13 years. He is known for producing Idaho's Centennial radio program, Idaho Snapshots, which aired on 39 stations statewide.

Rick received a degree in English from Boise State University in 1978 and a Master of Public Administration degree from BSU in 2003.

He worked in publishing in Seattle for three years while his wife, Rinda, got her law degree at the University of Washington. Rick worked for 30 years at the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR). He served as the public information officer, communication manager, and planning chief. Following his retirement from IDPR, he served as the Idaho Recreation and Tourism Initiative coordinator.

Today Rick writes regular columns on history for the *Idaho Press* and *Boise Weekly*. He writes a daily history blog called Speaking of Idaho, which has about 11,000 Facebook followers. Rick has published a dozen books, including *The Kids Guide to Boise*, a biography of Farris Lind, and two histories of Idaho's state parks. He serves as the director of Writers at Harriman, an annual writing camp for gifted high school students.