SARAH HAWKINS was inspired to donate because someone asked. An old friend from elementary school posted on Facebook in April 2018 that his dad needed a kidney. She felt an immediate calling to get tested and somehow knew she would be a match. After 10 months of testing, she was a match, donating her left kidney to her friend’s father in February 2019, eight days before his 70th birthday.

She is climbing to fulfill a lifelong dream of summiting Kilimanjaro. The One Kidney Climb trip was the brainchild of Sarah and one other KDA member. Their thought was if the whole KDA group goes to Kilimanjaro, it would raise awareness for living donation. Two years later it is becoming a reality.

Sarah is involved with student affairs in higher education and resides in San Luis Obispo, California. She lives with her husband Ben, who is climbing in support, and daughter Mackenzie. When she is not climbing mountains, she enjoys riding bikes, racing triathlons, hiking, knitting, and watching documentaries. Sarah donated her kidney
on February 6, 2019, at UCLA and is a member of the board of directors with KDA. “I wanted to be like Tracey and spread the word to encourage other healthy people to donate.”