ONE KIDNEY CLIMBER: Stephanie Meyer, Kansas City

STEPHANIE MEYER felt donation was simply the right thing to do! She had heard about living donation a few years prior, but in 2018 she saw a social media post about an old high school friend whose husband was suffering from polycystic kidney disease and needed a kidney. Coincidentally, the day of that post was the anniversary of her father’s passing, a day on which she always tried to honor his memory by doing something for others. She calls this a wink from God!

She is climbing for several reasons. Actively involved in the organ donor community locally since her donation in 2018, this felt like a great way for her to continue to advocate for living donation, while reminding people that living donors are “still” capable of doing really big things. It was also the perfect marriage of her passion for physical challenges and increasing awareness of the need for donors.

Stephanie is very involved in the Kansas City community and is active in several local organizations, most recently completing more than six years as a member of the Shawnee City Council. She lives with her husband Bryan and rescue pup, Charlie. When she is not climbing mountains, she enjoys kayaking, reading, building charcuterie boards, and volunteer work. Stephanie donated her kidney on December 18, 2018, at University of Kansas
Hospital, Kansas City. “As someone who came through a difficult childhood (loss of her father, home destroyed by a tornado), I know what it is like to be helped by strangers. This felt like a natural extension of my overall goal to pay that kindness forward. It has been such a blessing!”