

Dan was inspired to donate because his dad, Pat, needed a kidney. Pat's kidneys began to rapidly decline after he had surgery to open up a blocked artery. Dan and other relatives initiated the process to determine if they would be a match. After undergoing testing, Dan found out he was a match to donate to his dad! Dan underwent surgery and was able to donate his kidney on his dad's birthday almost five years ago.

He is climbing to increase the awareness around kidney disease and the challenges of finding living donors. He also hopes the hike may inspire young people (especially college students) to consider becoming living donors.

Dan is a professor in the School of Learning & Teaching at Pacific University. He grew up in the Midwest and now lives in Beaverton, Oregon with his partner Jill, son (Gus), and their dog (Ranger). In his free time, he enjoys hiking, skiing, reading, and spending time at the ocean with his family. Dan donated his kidney on December 27, 2018, at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.