

## Tim Geoghegan

1. Why did you sign up for hike and how old were you?  
20 years old. I read the initial Backpacker article about the hike, dreamed of doing it, convinced myself it was unrealistic and went back to the grind at work. I finally decided "F it", quit my job, sold everything I owned and joined the hike at Del Norte, CO, on 9/6/80.
2. What is your favorite experience from the hike?  
The people... meeting the hikers, meeting strangers, experiencing all the good in people. Developing life-lasting relationships, creating lifetime memories.
3. Did you have an "ah-ha moment" on the hike and what was it?  
Monty telling me that if I do nothing else in life, to go to college when the hike is over. And I did.
4. What was your favorite state and why?  
No particular favorite as each offered so many experiences/memories. From a hiking standpoint, VA/AT trail.... almost 500 miles on AT.
5. What was your least favorite part of the hike?
6. How did the hike change you?
7. What do you tell people about your achievement now?  
My daughters have finally shown "interest" in what their dad did in 1980. So I show them pictures of what I was like then.
8. What would you have changed about the hike?  
Nothing.
9. Did you pursue other hiking/backpacking afterwards? Long journeys or weekends?  
No. Small car camping trips, but NO backpacking in 35 years!
10. What did you learn about yourself that you are willing to share?  
It's never too late to say you are sorry. Respect individuality.
11. Did it make you a stronger person?  
Duh!
12. Are you proud of your accomplishment?  
Duh!
13. What was the dumbest thing you did on the hike?

Too many to pick out just one!

14. What was your most vivid memory from the hike?

Too many...arriving at the ocean, everyone running into the water. Then the goodbye.... tears, tears, tears.

15. What was your funniest moment on hike?

16. What was your most embarrassing moment on the hike?

Showing up with the worst backpacking equipment ever, including Revereware pot!

17. What was your nickname on the hike?

I'm sure there were many but no one ever told me.

18. Anything else you want to add?

Just to say, "thank you" for the memories.