

Raymond Greenlaw's Biography

Raymond “Wall” Greenlaw was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1961 to Roxy and Bob. He has always enjoyed fresh air, large trees, mountains, and the sea. Raymond’s passion is learning about and understanding people and cultures from all over the world, and to serve as an Ambassador for the United States. Raymond departed for California at the age of 18 and received a BA with honors in Mathematics from Pomona College in 1983. He then traveled up the west coast to get an MS in Computer Science in 1986 and a PhD in Computer Science in 1988 from the University of Washington. While in graduate school, he worked for Paul Allen (co-founder of Microsoft, RIP) at Asymetrix Corporation. Raymond spent the majority of his career as a professor: teaching and conducting research with his students and colleagues. He resigned as the Office of Naval Research Distinguished Chair in Cyber Security from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland in 2016 to focus on his consulting business and writing. Raymond is an author, consultant, endurance athlete, investor, motivational speaker, and a PADI Dive Instructor. His main hobbies are cycling, mountaineering, hiking, running, music, scuba diving, swimming, traveling, triathlon, and writing.

In Raymond’s career he won four Senior Fulbright Fellowships (Iceland, Namibia, Spain, and Thailand), a Humboldt Fellowship (Germany), a Sasakawa Fellowship (Japanese), and additional fellowships from Italy, Japan, and Spain. He published about 20 books in the areas of complexity theory, graph theory, the Internet, parallel computation, networking, operating systems, theoretical Computer Science, the Web, and wireless. He is one of the world’s leading experts on P-completeness theory. His books have been used in more than 150 Computer Science and Information Technology programs in the USA, as well as internationally, and have been translated into several languages. Raymond has over 340 invited talks and publications. He served on the Executive Committee for the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET and was Chair of the Training Committee; he regularly consults with programs around the world to assist them with ABET preparations and program development. He helped to develop the Cybersecurity Program at the United States Naval Academy, and was a leader in the effort to develop ABET’s accreditation *Criteria* for Cybersecurity. His research has been supported by the governments of Germany, Hong Kong, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Namibia, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, and the USA.

In 2003 Raymond broke the world record for the fastest traverse ever of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) by completing the 2,659-mile trail in 83 days. His book titled *The Pacific Crest Trail: Its Fastest Hike* describes that epic journey. Raymond has published an additional 16 books on various topics, including *The Hazards of Cycling in Thailand*, *Palmarès*, *Trapped in Thailand’s Cave*, *Bob: My Dad, the Fisherman*, *Raymond’s Checklist Series*, and *The Thai Wife Series*. He also thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail (AT) in 97 days in 1995, and the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) in 100 days in 2015. He completed the Triple Crown of hiking in less than 280 days averaging over 27 miles per day on all three trails, and during that quest he went almost twenty years without taking a single zero-day. He completed one of the first thru-hikes of the Via Dinarica White Route in the Balkans in 52 days with his hiking partner Fiddlehead in 2017. In 2018 he completed the fastest hike ever across Thailand. Raymond won the hardest RAAM qualifier the Adirondack 540 in 41 hours in 2013. In 2011 with Peter Solomon, he completed a 3,450-mile ride across the US that started in Provincetown, MA and joined the RAAM route in Maryland to finish near Oceanside, California. Raymond raced RAAM solo in 2013 and 2014 with times of 12 days and 1 hour (2,963 miles), and 11 days and 22 hours (3,020 miles), respectively. He is one of only about 40 men over 50 to have finished RAAM solo. In 2018 he completed a 4,350-mile ride of the Trans America trail with Andy Phillips. In 2020 he completed a solo 4,556-mile ride around Thailand. Raymond has competed in about 150 races, including the big four 100-mile runs and 10+ Ironman-distance triathlons, including the hardest Ironman-distance race: the Swissman Extreme that has 17,000+ feet of climbing. Raymond has competed in triathlon in five decades. He has climbed six of the world’s seven summits and hundreds of other peaks around the world. He holds about a dozen scuba diving teaching specialties and many diving specialties.

Raymond has been to all 7 continents, visited all 51 countries on the continent of Europe, visited all 14 countries on the continent of South America, visited 21/24 countries on the continent of North America, visited 37/50 countries in Asia, visited all 50 of the United States plus the District of Columbia (all capitals except Lansing and Madison), visited 77/77 provinces in Thailand, visited 11/11 provinces in Belgium, visited 8/8 regions in Iceland, visited 7/7 districts in Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, visited 7/8 regions of Japan, visited 5/5 regions and 35/58 districts in Tajikistan, visited 12/14 districts in Uzbekistan, visited 18/21 counties in Croatia, visited 17/20 regions in Italy, visited 15/18 departments in Paraguay, visited 5/6 states and 3/3 internal territories in Australia, visited 5/6 regions in Turkmenistan, visited 26/32 regions in China, visited 17/21 lands in Sweden, visited 7/9 states in Austria, visited 20/26 cantons in Switzerland, visited 6/8 districts in Kyrgyzstan, visited 7/10 provinces in Canada, visited 36/54 provinces in Spain, and visited over half the destinations on the Traveler’s Century Club™ list of 329 places. He has crossed most countries in Europe overland by train, by car, by bicycle, by foot, and by bus. Raymond has traversed a large portion of the Great Silk Roads. He has been to 160+ countries and territories with an average of 4.7 visits and 44 days spent in each country, and more than 185 (groups of) islands around the world. He has traveled about 3,200,000 miles.