



## Roger Borchert

January 10, 1947 - October 1, 2007

Roger N. Borchert, 60, Bismarck, passed away on October 1, 2007, after a very short battle with liver and bile duct cancer at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN. A memorial service will be held on Monday at 10:00 AM at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, with Rev. Randy Upgren officiating. Roger was born on January 10, 1947, in Faribault, MN, the son of August F. and Winoma S. Kirkman Borchert. He graduated from Faribault High School in 1965 and from Winona State University in 1969 with a B.S. in Geology. Roger married Nancy A. Kotlarz of Winona, MN, on December 20, 1969, at Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Winona. Together they raised two daughters, Heather and Shelley. They were his pride and joy. Roger began his career as a teacher in Illinois in January of 1970 and he continued teaching later in Wyoming. He and Nancy moved to New Hope, MN, in 1973 and he began working as an engineer at Pesek Engineering and Manufacturing. In 1975 he accepted a position with the North Dakota Geological Survey as an oil inspector. After working in this capacity for five years, in 1980 he was offered the opportunity to work as an independent consulting geologist for Harris, Brown, and Klemer, Inc. Eventually, he became a partner in the firm, and continued there until his death. He and his dear friend, Robert P. Johnson, ran Harris, Brown, and Klemer, Inc. Johnson and Borchert Consulting Geologists until his death. He was considered an excellent well site geologist and will be dearly missed by his friends in the field. Roger was a member of the American Association of Petroleum

Geologists, the American Institute of Professional Geologists, North Dakota Geological Society past president, Society of Mining Engineers, North Dakota Landman's Association, and the Elks Club. He was the general chairman of the 5th Williston Basin Symposium in 1987 and the general chairman of the 1988 Rocky Mountain Section of AAPG. His favorite pastimes were fishing, golfing, reading, hunting, and fossil hunting. He is survived by his beloved wife of 37 years, Nancy of Bismarck; his daughter and son-in-law, Heather and Jeremy Christian of Schwenksville, PA; his daughter, Shelley Borchert and her special friend, Patrick Morgan of Bristow, VA; his mother, Winoma S. Borchert of Adel, IA; his sister and brother-in-law, Winoma S. "Sue" and Richard Schneider of Safford, AZ; his brothers, August D. Borchert of Warsaw, MN, and Troy Borchert of North Mankato, MN; his mother-in-law, Armella Kotlarz of Winona, MN; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Denis and Sherry Kotlarz of Hutchinson, MN, Beverly and David Arnoldy of Winona, MN, Garry and Donna Kotlarz of Hutchinson, MN, Patricia Kotlarz of Winona, MN, and Kevin Kotlarz of Winona, MN; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, August F. Borchert; his father-in-law, Benedict V. Kotlarz; and his sister-in-law, Pamela Borchert. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to the Geology Department at Winona State University, PO Box 5838, Winona, MN 55987-5838.

# Tribute Wall

RG

“ I read in the Rocky Mountain Journal that Roger had passed away and just wanted to send my condolences to the family. Roger helped me with numerous projects in the Williston basin and he and Robert Johnson represented my company before the NDIC. Roger's experience and kindness was of great value to me and he will truly be missed. God Bless' Robert Griffon

---

**Robert J. Griffon** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ Roger was a bright spot in our midst during all the work and tribulation of the the late 1970's boom while he worked for the NDGS. I remember Roger well from fishing trips to Minnesota and countless discussions of hunting and fishing, stories he told, and his work first with the Survey and later with HB&K. The profession will miss him as will all his friends. I sincerely regret his passing, and offer condolences to all his family.

---

**Lee Gerhard** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ Roger was one of the best geologist around. He was excited about the rig moving up to the field by New Town and talked about how nice it was going to be, since the new location would be closer to grocery stores, restaurants, the lake and golf courses. We are now on our first well north of New Town and are looking for good drilling. Roger's indepth geological knowledge and experienced counsel is missed. We will be patient as that is what Roger would want. We really appreciate the time we spent working together and the experience shared. You will be missed-

---

**Troy Purvis** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Sorry for your loss Heather. May God comfort you and your family.

Randy Schultz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Nancy and family, We were very sad to read about Roger's illness and passing. We remember the many soccer games Billi and Shelly played while we visited and watched the girls. Those were some of our most favorite times, and I'm sure some of Roger's and yours too. Our deepest sympathy to all. Gary and Marti Knutson

Marti Knutson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ I was saddened to hear the news about the death of Roger. It was an honor to work with him as a logging engineer when he was a wellsite geologist on many wells in the Williston Basin. Roger was a very professional and kind gentleman and he had a good sense of humor. He will be missed. Please accept my condolences on the loss of Roger.

Jim Campbell - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Nancy & family I was so sorry to hear about Roger's passing. I hope your memories of him with God's help will bring you comfort and know that he is at peace. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Judy K. Diede - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I WILL MISS THE SHORT NEIGHBORLY VISITS WE WOULD HAVE WHEN POSSIBLE IN THE BACK YARD.

DELAND & CHARLOTTE GALSTER - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Dear Nancy and family, It was with great sadness that I read of Roger's passing in this morning's Winona Daily News. Reading about his life and career immediately brought back fond memories of the crazy times we spent together as room mates with Mike Tentis and Steve Boeser in the Old Gert Phosky apartment building at 619 Main Street in Winona. One of the last times I visited Winona I drove past there only to find that the building had been replaced by a parking lot! Roger was always such a unique individual, so interested in science and rocks and the land while Mike and I were into music. It doesn't surprize me to read of his career in the oil industry. He was always committed and focused and knew what he wanted to do, and lo and behold he did it! How many of us can really say we lived out our dreams! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family as you struggle through this most difficult time. While the thought of his passing brings a tear to my eye, the memories of his life can't help but make me smile. Take care and may these thoughts comfort you at this difficult time. Dave Knight

---

**David Knight** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ In the summer of 1972 Roger, who was teaching in Hulett, Wyoming notified me he had located some dinosaur bones that needed collecting. I brought a group of students out there armed with the proper excavating tools and we proceeded to unearth several intact leg bones of what turned out to be a young *Diplodocus*. These bones are still on display in the science building at Winona State University. Over the years Roger donated many fossils to our department. Dr. John Donovan and I are extremely proud of how well Roger did in the field of oil and gas exploration. He came to Winona about two times a year and we always went out for a round of golf and breakfast at Stumpy's in Rushford. He was a close friend and will be sorely missed.

---

**Tom Bayer** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ We'll remember Roger for his wonderful sense of humor and the funny stories he shared. We'll all miss him. Nancy, our thoughts are with you and your family at this difficult time. Dave & Sue

---

**Dave & Sue Bickel** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Roger's passing. He was one of the most unique people I have known. I will always remember him.

---

**David Russell** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM