



# Richard Walter Behling

MAY 25, 1947 - JUL 29, 2025



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FLORAL HAVEN

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# Richard Walter Behling

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**R**ichard Walter Behling, 78, passed away on July 29, 2025, following a prolonged illness. He was a son of the late Robert T. and LaVerne Behling of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Growing up, he was a Boy Scout and was proud to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. After moving to Tulsa following graduation, he later earned a law degree at the University of Tulsa.

Known to his family and friends as “Dick”, he had many experiences of which he was very proud. One such experience was his ability to serve as a geology field assistant in Antarctica with his brother Bob who was doing doctoral research in Wright Valley. However, he was most proud of his ability to serve in the Wisconsin National Guard. He later transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve in Oklahoma. Finally, Dick was very proud of his home, where he tended to his gardens, and tried to keep up with his Labrador Retrievers.

In Tulsa, his geological career as a petroleum geologist included oil and gas development for Texaco, Cotton Petroleum, and several other companies as well as going out on his own, and forming R&R Resources and BRG Resources. These jobs are where he met many of his life-long friends, where endless card games and New Year's parties took place. Dick enjoyed traveling with Julieanne on cruises across the world when they could, especially enjoying his time in Switzerland.

Dick is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Julieanne. Also surviving are his sister-in-law, Mary Behling, of Morgantown, WV; niece Alison Behling Viturawong (Tar) of Arlington, VA; nephew Andrew Behling (Melissa) of Tampa, FL; and his dear cousin Carolyn Hasey of West Des Moines, IA.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Robert E. Behling of Morgantown, WV, and cousins Charlotte Brandt, James Behling, and Janice Knull, all of Wisconsin, and his favorite pups.



## Obituary

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Floral Haven Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements for Dick's viewing and funeral. He will be receiving a military burial, and will be located in the military section. In lieu of flowers, please feel free to make donations to:

Wounded Veterans of Oklahoma ([www.woundedveteransofoklahoma.com](http://www.woundedveteransofoklahoma.com))

6310 S 110th E Ave Tulsa OK 74133

Animal Aid of Tulsa ([www.animalaid.org](http://www.animalaid.org))

Animal Aid of Tulsa 6811 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74129.

Webcasting is available at the following link for those that cannot attend in person:

<https://webcast.funeralvue.com/events/viewer/114790>



# Events

**Richard Walter Behling**

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## Visitation

 **Monday**, August 4, 2025

 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT


 **Floral Haven Visitation Suites**  
6500 S 129th E Ave., Broken Arrow OK 74012

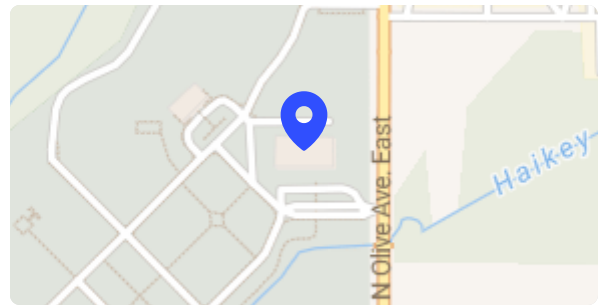


## Celebration of Life Funeral Ceremony


 **Tuesday**, August 5, 2025

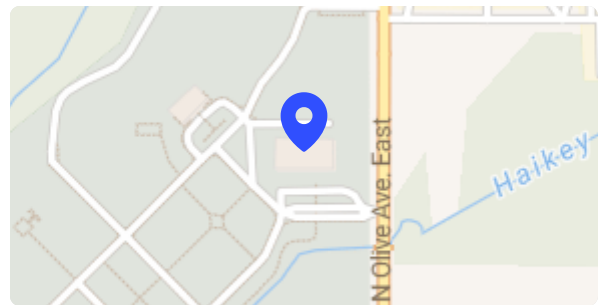
 10:00 AM CT

 **Floral Haven Funeral Home Chapel**  
6500 S 129th E Ave., Broken Arrow OK 74012



## Cemetery Details

 **Floral Haven Memorial Gardens**  
6500 S 129th E Ave, Broken Arrow OK 74012





## Tribute Wall

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SM

**Steve Mcnamara** posted:

I was lucky to meet Dick at the beginning of my career in oil and gas. He was a fantastic friend and mentor to me early on and I'll never forget how kind he was. Every week he'd leave coupons for discounts on Reasor's steaks on my desk, and if you knew Dick, you'd know him sacrificing those coupons meant he must like you. Was a wonderful man and he'll be greatly missed!

August 5 at 4:45 PM

NB

**Nancy Bruce** posted:

Dick Behling as remembered by his friend Lyle Bruce first met Dick in August, 1974. We were both young exploration geologists at Texaco in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was taking law classes at night and passed the bar in a year or so. However, he primarily practiced geology. Dick introduced me to the "paycheck Friday" penny-ante poker games with other geologists such as John Ravenscroft, Haden Holcomb, Rob Lyon, Clyde Wootton and a few others. Winning or losing a dollar in one night was a big deal (no pun intended). As the years passed, we all went to work for other oil exploration companies in Tulsa, but kept up the poker games as best we could. In the mid-1980s Dick and I and John Ravenscroft shared office space in the old Atlas Life building where each of us ran our own independent one-man exploration companies. Life was good until the oil bust. By 1989 or 90 we gave up the office space and went our separate ways. I left Tulsa in 1996 pursuing a different career. However we old friends kept in touch, visited on occasion and even went on a few cruises together to places like Alaska and Europe. Dick was a good man and a good friend. I will miss him.

August 5 at 10:10 AM

NB

**Nancy Bruce** posted:

Our Thanksgivings and Christmas Eves in Tulsa always included Dick and Julie. We think of them fondly on every holiday and will miss Dick's holiday emails! Lyle and Nancy Bruce

August 5 at 9:36 AM

RT

**Robert Thiel** posted:

For several years we attended the Milwaukee Rep with Dick and Julie. Frequently the evening would end with a stop at Rieder's for a Berliner Weisse. Many Memories of those days. Rest in peace, Behls. Bob Thiel and Ruth Holst

August 4 at 7:03 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RT

**Robert Thiel** posted:

For several years we attended the Milwaukee Rep with Dick and Julie on Sunday evenings. Frequently, the evening would end with a stop at Rieder's for a Berliner Weisse. Many memories of those days. Rest in peace. Bob Thiel and Ruth Holst

August 4 at 6:59 PM

PG

**Paul Gruenwald** posted:

RIP Dick. We were best friends from Grade School through College. Dick was the Best Man at my wedding. We had many good times together, some great and some very questionable. Will miss Dick very much even though we live in separate states. Paul Gruenwald

August 4 at 4:32 PM

CW

**Craig Witte** posted:

Grilling marinated chuck roasts and drinking wine and beer through strawberry licorice straws at Milw parks. Craig and Mary Witte

August 3 at 1:16 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Richard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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