



Rodney Paul Gallagher

April 18, 1953 - December 31, 2025

Rodney Paul Gallagher was born April 18, 1953, in Topeka, Kansas, to John Paul Gallagher and Ruby Fern Howard Gallagher. He died Wednesday, December 31, 2025, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the age of 72 years, with his daughter and grandson by his side. Rod completed his secondary education in Owasso, Oklahoma, and was a graduate of Owasso High School. He continued his education at the University of Tulsa where he earned his bachelor's degree in engineering.

Rod was married August 24, 1974, in Owasso to Vicki Lynn Burdine. They lived in Owasso at that time before making their home in Tulsa. Rod's extensive professional career began at Public Service of Oklahoma as a student engineer in the Power System Planning department. He then moved to the new PSO Energy Control Center to work in Telecom Engineering as a software engineer and for a new dispatch master computer system that monitored the electric transmission grid. He became an expert programmer and worked with the computer system manufacturer TRW and Ferranti Controls to optimize their systems.

During the 1990's, Rod moved into various Telecom management positions within Central and Southwest (PSO's parent company) including Telecom Engineering and Command Center Operations. He then became manager of a new group called Control and Monitoring. Central and Southwest merged with American Electric Power in 2000, at which time Rod became the Senior Consultant for the reorganized management now known as AEP Telecom. His

retirement in 2010 was short lived as his assistance was requested to help with the distribution automation projects as a contractor to develop and test software for AEP Telecom. He retired once again in 2019.

Rod enjoyed a variety of pastimes including bowling and golfing, but especially astronomy. He was an excellent bowler and well known throughout the Tulsa area. He was a member of the United States Bowling Congress.

Rod also enjoyed studying astronomy and was active with the Oklahoma City Astronomy Club, the Astronomy Club of Tulsa, and the Okie Tex Star Party.

Rod was also an accomplished musician and enjoyed playing the guitar.

Those he leaves behind who hold a lifetime of memories include:

Daughter; Kathleen "Katy" Lynn Gallagher

Grandson; Damien Cain Gallagher

Mother; Ruby Fern Gallagher

He was preceded in death by his wife Vicki Gallagher and his father, John Gallagher.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 5, 2026, at Mowery Funeral Service in Owasso. Funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at the Mowery Funeral Service Chapel with Pastor Tim Prock officiating. Serving as casket bearers will be Damien Gallagher, Stanley Davis, Gerald Miller, Cliff Vann, Mark D'Arcy, and Blaine Baker.

Committal service and interment will follow at Floral Haven Memorial Gardens in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. The family requests memorial contributions be made in Rod's memory to the Oklahoma City Astronomy Club, www.okcastrocclub.com. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.

www.moweryfs.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service
9110 N. Garnett Rd.
Owasso, OK 74055
(918) 272-6244
<https://www.moweryfs.com/>

Funeral Service

JAN 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service Chapel
9110 North Garnett Road
Owasso, OK 74055

LIVE STREAM SERVICE

JAN 6. 10:00 AM.

Live Stream - Mowery FS Chapel
<http://www.vimeo.com/moweryfs>

Tribute Wall



“ I got the pleasure of learning about Rod through his daughter over the past two years. His love and passion for science and engineering are inspiring. I remember learning that he played a role in the development and implementation of Tulsa's electric grid and just thinking that he was the coolest. Katy was so proud of her dad, and her face lit up every time he was mentioned. He will be missed deeply.

Maura Wahl - January 14 at 10:30 AM

KG

Thank you so much, Maura. This means a whole lot. He was such an amazing person and I really wish he could have come talk to everyone at MADE. I will have to show off some of his various work to the group sometime!!

Katy Gallagher - January 31 at 12:15 PM



“ Rod, RIP. Too quickly, so sudden. Rod was my bowling team partner a couple of times in our Sr. League. Hard to believe what can happen from one moment to the next. A kind man and a good bowler. Our whole league has lost a valued member and we send our condolences to the other family members and all his friends. He looked up at the stars so often, now he gets to look down. No more flat ten pins, Rod.

Thomas Dreyer - January 10 at 11:11 PM

KG

Thank you so much, Thomas. He is very missed. Things just aren't the same without him. I will have to come bowling with the league sometime. Although I am nowhere near as good a bowler as my dad was 😊💕

Katy Gallagher - January 31 at 12:17 PM

TG

“ Goodbye, Rod. Thank you for being such a great peer and mentor to so many of us in the Oklahoma City Astronomy Club and the hobbyist community more broadly who shared your passion for astronomy and astrophotography. We were always impressed by your skill and knowledge of the field.

Rod's personal website of this hobby: bixhomaastro.com/

Tom Graham - January 07 at 04:21 PM

CT

“ My friend, I will miss you greatly....You were one of the most knowledgeable folks I knew when it came to astronomy.

Christopher Reid Taylor - January 06 at 06:45 PM

DM

“ Rod was a big contributor and lover of astronomy, astrophotography and the Okie-Tex Star Party. The Okie-Tex family is very sad to hear of his passing. Rod will be missed by all and the star party will not be the same without him. Sending love and support to the family from us at Okie-Tex.

Danny MacDonald - January 06 at 11:11 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rodney Paul Gallagher.



January 05 at 05:31 PM

LG

“ Leslie Goodwin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rodney Paul Gallagher.

Leslie Goodwin - January 05 at 05:31 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Rodney Paul Gallagher.



January 05 at 10:46 AM

RI

“ Rick Irwin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rodney Paul Gallagher.

Rick Irwin - January 05 at 10:46 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Rodney Paul Gallagher.



January 05 at 10:05 AM

ST

“ SFH MCS/ Intensivist Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rodney Paul Gallagher.

SFH MCS/ Intensivist Team - January 05 at 10:05 AM