## **Sheryl Gallagher**

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The best advice I received from my first college advisor was to pick up my engineering degree. I earned my Geological Engineering Bachelors of Science degree at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City South Dakota. I fell into geotechnical engineering profession by being the right person, right place, at the right time. I started on the construction materials testing side and worked my way into geotechnical engineering at three other mid-western firms. My undergraduate studies were lacking in civil courses so I went back to school 7 years later to work on my masters. With a move from Michigan to Kansas City and a busy family, it took me 7 years to complete my Mater of Civil Engineering from the University of Kansas. I am a Senior Project Manager for Geotechnology, Inc. in Overland Park, Kansas where I oversee geotechnical projects and manage the drilling group. I am also an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers where I served as President from 2013-2014.

I grew up on a farm in central Illinois and I have always loved being outside. I usually have fruits and vegetables to share with my friends and neighbors in the summer. My neighbor and I work together with our backyard chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. I learned how to hunt white tail deer later in life and love the fall/early winter hunts with a bow, rifle and/or muzzle loader. I also like to fish in the summer when the garden is caught up. I am an active member of my church and I try to give back to the community by being a: merit badge councilor and certified NRA shot gun instructor/ Range Safety Officer for the boy scouts; member of the Liberty Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); and a member of the Northland Disaster Animal Response Team (DART). I have also received training from the Red Cross for sheltering people during a disaster and have a technician grade ham radio license. My husband and I have five children whose professions are: two engineers, an architect, a bio-chemist and one in sales that intends to go back to school to learn how to paint cars. We enjoy our two grandchildren, ages 2 and 5.