Mr. Kathol entered the University of Nebraska in 1939 and graduated with a degree in Geology in 1946 after serving in the Air Force during WWII. After graduation, he worked for Mobil Oil Company. Mr. Kathol and Warren Thomlinson started their own company, TOMKAT, Ltd. When Mr. Kathol and Thomlinson split, Mr. Kathol founded the public company, Kathol Petroleum, Inc.