SPIE Fellow Robert E. "Bob" Fischer passed away in August of 2020 at the age of 77. He was also a Fellow of the Optical Society of Southern California (OSSC) and a Fellow and Life Member of SPIE.

Bob Fischer was the founder and former CEO of Optics 1, Incorporated of Westlake Village, California. Optics 1 and was a long-time corporate sponsor of the Optical Society of Southern California. He earned a BS and MS in Optics from the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester. Bob was semi-retired and a part-time consultant.

Bob has contributed both financial resources and time to the Society and the optics community. He has developed and taught numerous courses, co-courses and authored the book, Optical Systems Design with Biljana Tadic-Galeb and Paul Yoder, now in its second edition (McGraw-Hill, 2008). Bob’s memorable and entertaining presentations at Society meetings are noted for his insight regarding optical aberrations, his list of Bloopers and Blunders in Optics, vacation photos and magic tricks! An accomplished magician, a photo of Robert Fischer appeared in the February, 2006, OSSC Images newsletter. Bob was the featured speaker at the January 12, 2011 meeting of the Optical Society of Southern California presenting a sampling of his course materials. Bob generously made some of his educational materials available to the public. More about Bob at Bio-robert-fischer-fellow - Optical Society of Southern California (osscc.org) and at In Memoriam: Robert E. Fischer (spie.org)