



Barbara Rickard

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I was born in Winston-Salem, NC, and grew up in Clemmons which is just outside Winston-Salem. There was no place to dance so I was not exposed to any "fast dancing" until my family vacationed at Myrtle Beach in the mid fifties. I happened to be walking by the pavilion and saw some couples dancing to the jukebox music and thought it was the finest thing I had even seen. I spent the rest of that week at the pavilion and a young guy from Greenville, SC, taught me to shag. That's when I fell in love with the dance.

I met my husband Jack at the beach in 1955 and two years later we were married. We lived in Raleigh while Jack was in school at N. C. State and we danced some on Saturday nights at fraternity parties. After that we moved back to Clemmons and were busy for many years raising our family. We rarely had opportunities to dance during those years.

Finally someone opened a small place in Winston-Salem called the Polo Club where Susie Beaver was giving shag lessons. We were so happy to have a place to dance. We were there every week and had a few lessons to help us get back into the swing of things. From that time on we never stopped dancing and eventually, along came SOS, ShagAttack, Our Time and all the great places at OD where we've danced.

As well as having a blast dancing, I'm so happy with all the good friends I've made over these past 25 or so years. I cherish the memories. I love the dance, I love the people, and I just feel so blessed to be a part of it all.

I am honored to be inducted into the "Shaggers Hall of Fame".