



# Susan Jarrett Neal 1996

## SUSAN JARRETT NEAL

As a little girl, my passion for dancing was ballet and tap. Now that I am a big girl its called the shag. Born in Fort Bragg, N.C. and raised in eastern North Carolina. My love for music and dance came very honest. Mama and Daddy were avid jitterbug dancers. Maybe thats where my ear for music and the ability grew and the desire strengthened to want to dance.

The summer of 1967, my daddy wanted me to practice my golf game more, however, my sights were set on Moorehead City or (AB is what we called it). The Pavilion, Embers Club and years later the Jolly Knave. I was not old enough to drive yet, so some way I'd get to Mike Pace's house and he would drive us every weekend to the beach so we could dance.

In 1971, I graduated from Jacksonville, N.C. Through my 20's I made Raleigh my home. My life grew and so did my style of dancing. I met and danced with a lot of different male partners and entered a few contests. Ronnie Stone, Arnold King, Bobby Chandler, and Ronnie Duggins were just a few of my favorite partners. Their styles are all different but wonderful.

In the late 70's I ventured to North Myrtle Beach for the first time and met up with two slick moving and talking individuals named Doug Perry and Norfleet Jones. After all the critiquing from Fleet, Doug and I danced in a Fat Jack's Contest and from that weekend on I was known as the girl who danced in high heels or "Big Broad".

In September 1982 I married the love of my life. Dave and I raised our son David, Jr. who is in his second year of college.

We now make our home in North Myrtle Beach. The people we have met and friends we have made are very precious to us. The dance has and will always be a part of me.

This honor I will cherish for life. To the Board members and all the members of the Shaggers Hall of Fame I am truly grateful and honored.