



Deborah Morgan Crawford 1998

DEBORAH MORGAN CRAWFORD

It was the summer of 1947 when I walked to Roberts Pavilion on Sunday night. I peered over the rail of the wooden dance floor and was hypnotized by what I was . . . I was watching Leon Williams!!! I don't think I moved for an hour . . . who would have thought in 1998 I would still be watching Leon dance!!!

I met so many cute people at the beach during my high school days. We would go to the Myrtle Beach Pavilion and watch and come home and try all the steps . . . practice . . . practice . . . I think the first time I really danced was upstairs at the Myrtle Beach Pavilion with Little Red Spears. That was such a treat.

I spent two summers with my aunt at Folly Beach. The music was the same but there were some different steps . . . It was fun . . . during Easter vacation we would go to Ocean Drive and Cherry Grove. Each time we would dance a little more and met some more neat people . . . in the winter we would go to Clemson, North Carolina State or stay here at home and go to Coker College to dance by the music of Harry James, Glen Miller, Benny Goodman and so many more. We had some good times, In the summer there were all the festivals. . . The watermelon, the Iris, the tobacco and once again we would pile into cars and follow the big bands to all the festivals . . . my days in high school were really wonderful.

When I left college I went to work for Delta Airlines. This really changed my life style . . . I became part of the real world, In 1956 I married John "Snookie" Crawford who was a "one time" beach bum, He loved the beach and dancing as much as I did. John went to the University of South Carolina and we lived in Columbia for the next four years. When we finished Carolina we moved to Hartsville and settle down to raise our family. We would run into an old beach friend ever so often at a club dance or a football game.

In 1980 we came to the first SOS and the magic returned!!! We saw so many old friends and best of all we made so many new friends!!! The past 18 years have been so wonderful . . . the good times . . . the memories . . . Oh, I thank God for the wonderful memories!!! and now you have included me the Hall of Fame. Thank you for the honor. My thanks to each of you.