



# Jo Bleckley McEachern 1985

## JO BLECKLEY MCEACHERN

I live in Atlanta -- not an easy place to find a good partner for the shag. At least, not the way we used to do it. I have to attend SOS events to find partners like Buddy Kennedy. He was my main dance partner in the old days and still is.

When I was in my teens in Columbia, SC, my father said my middle name should be "go." That's because I seldom stood still but kept moving with the crowd so I wouldn't miss out on any fun.

I learned to shag at a teen club in Columbia. Later, I went often with a bunch of shaggers to the "Web" and other Columbia night clubs. At various times the group included David and Richard Michaels of Greenville, "Baby" Don Edwards, Leaky Thornton, Burt Bennett, Hop Hopkins and Booger Garrett.

My frequent companions in the search for fun were Ann Gladden and my sister Ann Bleckley. Every weekend we could find a ride we went to Myrtle Beach. We danced and partied with a group of shaggers at Spivey's, the Old Pavilion, and Ocean Drive. The group included Nelson Burton, Harry Driver, Eddie Monsour, and Bo McEachern.

I also remember dancing at the Tobacco Festival in Mullins, SC and attending Big Band concerts at the Township Auditorium in Columbia.

Today, I am an office manager at Equifax Insurance Systems in Atlanta. I have a daughter and son-in-law, Sandy and Tom Lamb, who live in Boston, Massachusetts. I still enjoy dancing the shag and seeing old friends from the beach. Thank goodness we have the SOS events so that we can still see old friends, dance, party and feel young once again.