



B. E. "Speedy" Lewis

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Name: B.E. "Speedy" Lewis
Born: Jan. 2, 1937
Hometown: Dillon, S.C.
Education: Graduated Clemson University in 1959
Wife: Edith
Children: Braxton and Edith Ann
Residency: North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

My first introduction to the dance, which at that time was referred to as "fast dancing", was at the Myrtle Beach Pavilion about 1950. They danced on the concrete floor to music from a jukebox which was kept constantly playing by older adults that fed it nickles and quarters to enjoy watching the kids dance. Once in a while, a cop would stroll by and check on the dancers to make sure they were not doing the "dirty shag" which was a step that got cleaned up in later years to become known as the "Belly Roll."

I'll never forget a young couple, whose names I never learned, that were great dancers doing a step called the "Suzie Q" which really impressed me.

I started coming to O.D. about 1955 and learned to dance at the O.D. Pavilion. On Saturday at midnight, they would padlock the jukebox and we would all go down to Sonny's Pavilion on the ocean front in Cherry Grove. Sonny's never closed and we would dance and "hang out" there til sunrise. My favorite dance record was Mary Lou.