



William Hand Hussey, Jr (Bill) 2009

WILLIAM HAND HUSSEY, JR. (BILL)

I was born May 13, 1948. My parents moved to Ocean Drive in 1949. I graduated from Wampee-Little River High School in 1966, Wingate Junior College in 1968 and Baptist College (Charleston, S.C.) in 1970. I guess you could call me a "Native Horry County Boy".

My first recollection of the "fast dance" comes around 1958 at the American Legion Hut in Crescent Beach;. Step, dig one, two, three, back step. I danced with every girl in Horry County. Myrtle Beach had many more people than O.D. and plenty of good dancers. From 1962 on, I went to Wilmington, North Carolina with the Myrtle Beach High School gang and danced on the "Teen Scene" which aired on WECT Channel Six. I have many fond memories of those days.

Juke Joints were abundant- The Pad, O.D, Pavilion, Sonny's Pavilion, Windy Hill Pavilion, Fork's Drive Inn. We circulated around each place looking for the crowd. I have danced a million miles in each. The best dancers in the world put on the shows every night at one or all of these hot spots.

I finished school and worked with my father at Hussey Realty Company. During the next twenty-five years I stopped going out to dance. All my old friends would call me, but I just didn't go. Along the way I fathered three wonderful children, William Hand (Bill) Hussey, III, Julia Margaret (Maggie) Hussey and Edith Caroline (Carrie) Hussey. My wife, Julianne, doesn't shag, but shares my other hobbies , fishing, hunting and cooking with me.

Then came that fateful day I was having brunch at the Surf Club and the new chef asked me to go to the Ocean Drive Pavilion that afternoon. I said I would. At about 4:30 that afternoon Gregg Stegall came by my house to pick me up. **THE REST IS HISTORY!!** *A monster was re-born. My love of the Shag rekindled!*