



# Edwin William "Ed" Evans 2010

## EDWIN WILLIAM (ED) EVANS

Born June 26, 1937 in Anniston, Alabama. Moved to Birmingham, Alabama at age 2. Graduated from Auburn University with a Mechanical Engineering Degree in March, 1960. Joined the U.S. Navy in April, 1960, and was discharged in September, 1965.

Married Julie, June 28, 1965 in Pensacola, Florida. Moved to La Crosse, Wisconsin for job training in November, 1965. Moved to Greenville, South Carolina to work in June 1966, where I still live. One son, Jeff, born August, 1970.

I have been dancing most of my life. My interest in dancing started when I saw my Father do the soft shoe whenever a good song came on the radio. I learned to dance at age 13, in Pratt City Park, when a girl named Judy Cook taught me to Fast Dance. I was hooked! Dancing came easy, as the music just went straight to my feet. Everywhere there was dancing you could find me, since I knew the girls loved to dance.

At 14, I started going to the beach with my friends. Since we did not have transportation, we hitchhiked to dance at the Hang Out in Panama City Beach, Florida. I met people from all over the Southeast. We went to the Beach throughout high school. In college I danced at The Valley in LaGrange, Georgia and in bars in Columbus, Georgia as well as in Panama City. In the Navy, I was at every bar or nightclub with a dance floor. That included places in Newport, Rhode Island, Norfolk, Virginia and many countries overseas.

Arriving in Greenville, my wife and I went to a place called Tramps every chance we could get. In 1983 I was introduced to the Sand Flea Beach Club on Rutherford Road, where Shaggers Hall of Fame originated, and to the Carolina Shag Club. This introduction changed my social life. I danced, was a stock holder, and managed the Sand Flea for three years. The Sand Flea closed in 1993. I am still a member of the Carolina Shag Club.

In 1984, I attended my 1<sup>st</sup> SOS. To the present day, I have not missed one. Shag events have been my vacations and my main enjoyment since my first visit to the Sand Flea. I have traveled from Virginia to Florida and west to Memphis for Shag events. In 1995, I bought a house at North Myrtle Beach so I could come to the Shag world anytime I wanted. I have been attending ShagAttack since 1984.

I met my first wife, Julie, dancing in Pensacola, Florida. She died in 1997 as a member of the Shaggers Hall of Fame. I met my present wife, Elyse, at a Spring SOS. We were married in 2001. Shagging has introduced me to two wives and many friends from all over the country. Shaggers are my extended family and have given me much support when I have needed it. Many of the friendships I started years ago have become close relationships that have lasted to this day.

I want to thank all the ladies that have danced with me. The ladies are the reason I am going into the Hall of Fame. They have given me the opportunity to do what I enjoy and have introduced me to this wonderful world of Shagging. I am honored to be inducted into the Shaggers Hall of Fame!