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I was born in 1955 in Winston Salem, North Carolina. My sister and I were raised by a very hard-working single mother. My mother taught me to be self-sufficient and instilled, very early, a deep love and respect for family. I watched her get dressed up to go out dancing and there was always music in the home. I knew then that I wanted to dance. Dancing came very natural to me, and during high school, I was a member of the Parkland High Dixie Debs. Friday nights were filled with energy and during halftime, we were Winston Salem's version of the Rockettes! After graduation from high school I had three beautiful children, two daughters and a son. They are and have been the light of my life and my dearest treasures. I was fortunate to be able to manage the home and raise my babies.

The entire family or sometimes, just me, my mother and the girls would steal away to vacation at Myrtle Beach. I remember looking for vacancy signs on the beach front hotels. In such a carefree nature, we would just "wing it". The salty air and music have become a fixture in my life and always take me back to that carefree feeling of those early days.

When the children were all in school, I began to work outside of the home and I was able to join the Winston Salem Shag Club. The dance came very naturally. As one phase of life ended, another began and within the shagging community, I have cultivated life-long friendships. The bonds and friendships in the Shag community and my beautiful family were a great foundation for my next phase of life.

Still dancing, I met my Frank and in 2009, we married. He has been my rock. We have both seen each other through illness and have been blessed to come out on the healthy and bright side. This has given us great perspective and appreciation for life, love and friendships. We have traveled to most of the historic Shag venues and have enjoyed the dance while meeting many of the legends who made this dance and lifestyle the wonderful experience it is. We have competed in a number of dance contests (Frank is really proud that I won a tush-push contest) but social dancing has always been my favorite. I want to dance to every song I hear.

I look forward to dancing through life with Frank. My children love and appreciate the dance, and I hope my grandchildren will catch the bug. The Shag and the entire Shag community is such a big part of my life. I will be forever grateful for the dance and am so honored by this induction!