



Domer Reeves 1993

DOMER REEVES

I grew up in Greenville, S.C. and went to Parker High School. I learned to dance at Harry's Soda Shop with my favorite dancing partners at that time. Donnie Foster and Helen McMahan. I went to the Teen Canteen, Woods Lake and Pine Grove Lake to watch the Michael Brothers, Jo Jo Puttman and Jack Cahill dance. I knew I was going to like this thing called the Shag. It sure was an easy way to meet the girls.

Freddie Collins took me to the beach for Easter in 1955 and much to my parent's objections, I stayed until Labor Day! I lived at Ma Regan's that year with Toby Long, Dave Smith, Sonny Small, Don Edwards, Bob Dunn and Hog McGinnis; often in the same room. I danced to the juke box at the Myrtle Beach Pavilion for nickels and dimes with Martha Holtzclaw, Theresa Harrison, Carolyn Edwards and others.

I spent '58 and '59 in the Marines at Camp Lajeune and was at the beach more than at the base. Everyone was staying at the Twin Taverns. Rick Hubbard and Sleepy Timmerman often let me stay with them when I couldn't pay for a room of my own. Once I stayed eight days on a weekend pass!

Some of my favorite Shagging places over the past 40 years are The Pad, Barringers, The Forks, the various Harolds, Grouchos and the pavilions at O.D., Cherry Grove and Pawleys Island.

As I reminisce, these are some of the people that come to my mind: Frances Hyman, Bumps Hammond, Whitey Stevens, Beaver Greenway, Puppy Perry, Billy Pack, Cleveland Jordan, Harry Driver, Little Griff, Little Red, Jan Goodman, Worry Smith, Cliff Lee, Terry Trexler, Maurice Treadway, Richard Nixon and my special friend Don Reid.

I remember 25¢ Black Label beer at The Pad, the KMA Club, selling spiked snowcones from the snowcone cart, Jack Thompson and the photo stand, the guard house, Go Boy Blankenship, Chief Bellamy and half-pints from Jim Harris.

The day that changed my life was at The Pad when I met Janice Lawing and her skinny little friend, Carole Mattox. Carole has been my wonderful wife since 1962. We have two terrific sons, Kevin and Shannon and they have given us 4 grandchildren.

Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is a great honor because dancing and all the "Shaggers" I have met along the way have been very important part of my life.