



# Ronnie Shue 2009

## RONNIE SHUE

I was born in Charlotte, NC, February 4, 1948, to wonderful parents, Doris and Coy Shue. I have one brother, Robbie, who is six years younger than I. I was raised in North Charlotte; I attended Shamrock Garden Elementary, Cochran Middle and Garringer High School, graduating in 1967. Following high school, in 1968, I joined the Marine Corps and served three years.

I married while in the Marines, and had one son, Kelly. Following my discharge, from the Marines, I was fortunate to follow in my Dad's footsteps by learning the trade of Auto Upholstery. This has been, and remains my career.

When going to North Myrtle Beach, vacationing with family, I started going to beach clubs, like Fat Jacks and The Pad. At first, all I could do was mingle, enjoy the music, and wishing I could shag. Soon, I met Sonny and Judy Carver and was privileged enough to be able to take lessons from them; it did not take me long to fall in love with the dance. After many hours of lessons, practicing and observing others, I felt confident enough to start competing. My first official Spa Contest was at Groucho's Beach Club, in Charlotte, NC. I did not even make the cut, but received so much encouragement from other dancers giving me the drive and confidence to continue practicing.

By 1988, I felt I was ready to dance in the Shag Nationals. It was so exciting to be competing with so many great dancers. Finally, all of my efforts had become a reality, winning the SPA-Pro Division Point Championship, and winning fifth overall in the Shag Nationals, with my partner Jennifer Wattenbarger.

Finally, I reached a plateau where the dance had become less work and more fun. The friendships developed, through dancing, and going to the beach, are ones that I will cherish forever. My gratitude to all of my dance teachers for taking the time to share their skills and techniques and all of the ladies I have had the pleasure of dancing with.

After many dances and dance partners, I have met the love of my life, Toni, the lady I will continue to dance through life with.

It is with sincere appreciation to be receiving the great honor by being inducted into the Shagger's Hall of Fame.