



# Brenda Davis Barber - 2018

## BRENDA DAVIS BARBER

I was born in Everett, Washington at Paine Air Force Base Hospital in 1957. After moving to Montana and Bermuda, my family settled in Kenosha, Wisconsin where I grew up and finished school.

It was there that I met the love of my life, Bill Barber. We married in 1973 and raised two beautiful daughters, Shannon and Roxanne. We have six grandchildren.

We moved to South Carolina in 1978 with our construction equipment and started our new adventure, building our own company with hard work, perseverance and blessings.

In 1989, we were introduced to "shagging". It caught my eye because my Mother was a "jitter-bugger" and an avid piano player. Music, singing, dancing and playing musical instruments were important in my family. I learned the Waltz, Fox Trot, Polka, Two Step and Jitterbug when I was young. Those were some of the best days of my youth.

I was introduced to this dance by Joyce Davis O'Ryan. She taught Bill and me and took us under her wing. She educated us on the dance history, introduced us to the music and the lifestyle. We were hooked from then on. Eventually we joined CSA/SPA and started participating, dancing and moving up the ranks, contest after contest.

We have experienced some wonderful times, met thousands of like-minded people and have traveled to new and exciting places to share our love of this dance. Meeting all these people and being fortunate to travel sharing this dance have been priceless!!!

Together, Bill and I have won numerous championships around the country from LA to NY. Our years participating on the National Dance Team and various other dancing events were the most fun and rewarding. I have been blessed to have been able to get this far - and I couldn't have done it by myself.

I thank you all that have been there for me. I appreciate your wisdom, comments, critiques and most of all, your acceptance and love. And a big thanks to my Mom, where it all started. I love you!