



# JUDY C. MARTIN

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I was born and raised in High Point, NC and have lived there my whole life. I have loved music and dancing from the age of 13. I think I was the only girl in Jr High who had heard of and listened to Billy Ward and the Dominoes.

When I first ventured out and went to the High Point City Lake with its two wooden floors and two juke boxes and saw those older teens dancing and to such great music, I knew I had to learn "The Shag". As luck would have it, my cousin Sandy, who I grew up with taught me in one afternoon. I was so proud of myself, and I was soon a part of that City Lake crowd along with my cousin. We were there every Tuesday and Thursday night and danced with a lot of great dancers coming from the nearby cities. Of course, we moved on to the Castaway, Bitter End and Embers Club always using our fake IDs. At these clubs, I had the great fortune to dance with a lot of excellent dancers to include Ronnie Duggins, Tubby Madden, Buzz Sawyer, Danny Bean, and Cadillac Jack Smith.

After I met Chris's father, we went to The Pad. I will never forget the first time. He knew Shad and Brenda, Mike Osborne, Buzz Sawyer, Spider Kirkman, and many more. They were all there that day when Shad pulled me on the dance floor to dance with him. I was a nervous wreck, but I followed him pretty good for a new shagger. We hit all the joints, Sonny's, The Barrell, The Forks and The Continental. Sonny's was my favorite that night.

As time passed, I was in and out of the Shag world. I had remarried, and my son Chris and stepson David decided to learn how to shag, which took me right back to the shag clubs and the people I had missed. Fast forward, I am so proud that they were two of the original Juniors thus helping to form the Keepers of the Dance. We went to many contests and made many friends and always had a great time that I will never forget. I feel honored to have played a part in supporting the Juniors and always will.

I am so honored to be a part of the 2024 Hall of Fame class and am thrilled to be in the Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame along with my son, Chris Stephenson and stepson, David Campbell. How special is THAT?