



# Vera Munn Williams 1988

## VERA MUNN WILLIAMS

I was born "out in the country" in Florence county (the actual date is, of course, unimportant), but moved into the big city when I was 7 years old.

My beach bumming career began at an early age - 13 or so - when I started dancing at Ocean Drive. I could hardly wait for Easter weekend to arrive each year so I could go to O.D. and meet friends, dance to the wee hours, and lie out in the sun in front of the pavilion. Our gang consisted of Gary Rogers, Pete Corley, Bobby Rainwater, Ellison Stokes, Leon Williams, Fiddle Fadel, Ira Schmidt, Jimmy Calcutt, Buck Holcombe, and of course, my brother "Doodle".

I graduated from Florence High School in . . . well, no one really needs to know this date either! Some of my graduating class included Leon Williams, Ira Schmidt, Bobby Wall, and Don Hinds.

Life really started hopping when I moved to Greenville and lived with Delores and Leon Williams. As Doodle and Leon were packing my car, Doodle said they were wasting their time because I would never stay in Greenville. Much to everyone's surprise I stayed and met my husband, Hank. While in Greenville, I graduated from Draughen's Business College.

After moving around the world with my husband and two daughters, we settled in Sumter, South Carolina in 1969. The girls grew up, went off to colleges then careers, and finally settled back in Sumter with their husbands. As great as dancing is - it's nothing compared to my first granddaughter and soon to be second grandchild.

All the years rapidly fall away when the gang is together again at Ocean Drive. It's great to be back at our old stomping grounds!