



# Mike Tobin 2002

## MIKE TOBIN

My sister taught me the basic step at age 12. She needed a hand to hold while she practiced for the Friday night dances. But it paid off. At age 14, the lifeguard at the city pool gave me free admission, sugar babies and cokes to dance with his female admirers while he was on duty. This was to keep them busy and away from his competition.

I started dancing for fun in high school. The place to be then was the High Point City Lake Pavilion. I found out how easy it was to get a date when I was chosen best male dancer in my senior class. With this superlative under my belt, I moved on to the Castaways in Greensboro and Park Center in Charlotte.

Then came the big time.... The Pavilions at O.D., Windy Hill, Myrtle Beach, and of course, the Beach Club where all the best gathered.

After college at East Carolina, I dropped out of the scene for three years to ice skate professionally. After that I was ready to hit the dance floor once again. My new home would now be the Bushes in Greensboro. What a place! From now on I would be making lifetime friends.

My first try at competition would be in mid 1980's at Red's in Kinston. Here I would meet Harry Driver and Norfleet Jones. This led to a successful run with the best partner I had ever had, Judy Bazemore from Greenville, N.C.

Competition led to judging contest all over North and South Carolina for many years to come.

Now I dance for Fun and my love of the music. I've had the privilege of knowing and dancing with most of the "greats" from both sides of the aisle.

There's no stopping me now!!!!

Thanks you for this honor.