



Ruby W. Able 2007

RUBY W. ABLE

I was born and grew up in Greenwood, S.C. My love of the Shag and dancing started early in my life. As a young child I was into tap and ballet, but in my early teens I was bitten by the Shag Bug. We came to Ocean Drive and Cherry Grove on chaperoned house parties in the early and mid fifties. Watching some of the great dancers at the Pad, Sonny's Pavilion, etc. was the highlight of our stay. We would then go home and try to duplicate these moves. We frequented the Teen Club at our local Recreation Center and danced our summers away. During school the highlight of our football games was the dance at our Recreation center after the game.

In the mid fifties to mid sixties we all frequented a place in our area called Curry's Lake. This recreation area was centrally located near Greenwood, Laurens, Greenville, Ware Shoals and Woodruff, S.C. There was an open air pavilion with an old dome top juke box that you could play multiple songs for twenty-five cents. Little did I know that twenty years later I would find out that some of my friends now and Hall of Fame members Wanda Holiday Yow, Buzz Sawyer and Billy Waldrep went to Curry's Lake at the same time. What a small world!

In the early sixties I met and married my husband of twenty years. Like so many of us our marriages and families became first in our lives at this time. After my divorce I again became active with the Shag and have not stopped since. What a wonderful life I have had being associated with this group of friends and with this dance we all love so.

I attended the very first Hall of Fame inductions at The Club Savoy (later became The Sandflea) in Greenville, S.C. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think my name would be associated with these great dancers I consider my mentors. I cannot put into words how honored and appreciative I am of being inducted into the Shaggers Hall of Fame.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.