



Sy Creed

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My love of the Shag started when I was 12 years old during one July 4th summer vacation at OD. My brother, Clay, and I were tricked into going to a Jr. Shag Contest at Harold's Across the Street. My parents were supposed to be taking us to the Myrtle Beach Pavilion. Instead, I was standing on one of the speakers watching Kenny Calcutt, Warren Squires, and Chris Stephenson dance. I thought it was cool to see them "cutting a rug" and showing off. Then this little dude, David Campbell, danced. Afterwards the girls all flocked to him on the dance floor with hugs and kisses. That was me right there. I was hooked!!!

Born and raised in Laurinburg, NC, I am the son of Janice and Sandy Creed, Sr. I graduated from Scotland High School in 1987, where I was NCHSAA 3A/4A State Pole Vault Champion and held the school, conference, and sectional records. I am a four-time National Shag Dance Champion, winning the Jr II Division in 1985 & 1987, and the Pro Division in 1991 & 1994.

I currently reside in Greensboro, NC with my wonderful wife, Susan, and my three children, Cody, Payton, and Blaine who are the world to me. I have worked in the electronics assembly industry in sales management for the last 30 years.

My mom and dad had always wanted me to dance. "The girls are shaped like Coca-Cola bottles", my dad always said. At the time, I was not interested in going to a basement called Fat Boys in Rockingham, NC to learn to dance...until that summer Saturday. That Sunday night when we got back home, I had them teach me all the beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes they had taken. I wore that sheet of plywood in the living room out over the next five years. Thank you, mom, dad, and Clay, for supporting me.

I cannot list all the important people that have come into my life because of the Shag, but there are people who are near and dear to my heart. They are my partners Sarah West and Dana Brown, David Campbell, Babs McIntosh, Kebo Davis, Sonny & Judy Carver, Ervin Ellington, Thurston & Linda Reeder, Charlie Byrd, and of course my good buddy, Russell "Shaggin' Blues" Perkins. I cannot leave out the Jr's of the 80's and 90's. What memories were made with all of you.

This dance has given me so many opportunities and friends. Being featured in the movie "Shag", morning talk shows, parades, lessons, and instructional video tapes are so very memorable.

I would like to thank all my fellow dancers, the DJ's that play this awesome music, and most of all, the crowds that I was privileged enough to dance for. You pushed me to entertain, be original, and to be me.