



## Elizabeth "Beth" Cogburn Graves

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I was born in Chester, South Carolina in 1944 and at the old age of four began spending my summers "at the beach". My family had a cottage in the Crescent Beach section of North Myrtle Beach until Hurricane Hazel came calling. After that, we would spend at least one month at the beach each summer.

My mother and I moved to Rock Hill, South Carolina and at the age of fourteen, I was fortunate enough to come to the beach on some house parties with my mother as the chaperone. Since I had my driver's license, I got to go to The Pad, The Pavilion, The Forks, and Sonny's because that was where the "older" girls wanted to go.

My first introduction to shagging was at The Pavilion in 1958. Since several of the girls on the house party were considered good dancers, I was included in the dancing. I loved to go back home and show my friends what I had learned at the beach and tell them all the stories that went along with that era. Once I was old enough to come to the beach on house parties, I had to share all the wonders of OD with my friends.

Twenty years ago, I met my husband, Walter Graves, and we have been dancing ever since. If anyone had told me what an important part of my life would develop because of this dance, I would not have believed them.

I am very honored to be included in such an austere group of people, many of whom have been my "idols" for years.