



Dewey Carlos Kennedy Jr

SHAGGERS HALL OF FAME POSTHUMOUS DEWEY CARLOS KENNEDY, JR.

Dewey Carlos Kennedy, Jr. was born March 1, 1929 to Bonnie Gladys Britt and Dewey Carlos Kennedy. He was the third of four children. The firstborn child, Bernice, died at age two. Opal Kennedy Causey was his older sister and still lives in High Point, North Carolina. Henry Gaston "Monk" Kennedy was Dewey's younger brother. Monk died in 1991.

Dewey was born in the town of Bisco, Montgomery County, North Carolina. He attended Enna Blair Elementary School, Ferndale Middle School and High Point Central High School. At some point in his childhood he was nicknamed "Tinker", and for the rest of his life that name followed him wherever he lived.

As a teenager he discovered what was to be the love of his life . . . shag dancing. Whenever he could, he would hitch a ride to City Lake in High Point to go dancing with his friends. Before long he started heading to Myrtle Beach, S.C. to dance with the best shaggers in the world.

In 1950 he married Drema Joyce Hughes and in 1951 his son, Richard Craig was born. The marriage to Drema ended in divorce and in 1953 Dewey moved to Michigan and started his career with General Motors.

Dewey wed Delores Gross in 1955 and their marriage produced three children, Kelli Leann, Melita Louise, and Khristina Marie. In 1968 the Kennedy family moved to Charlotte, North Carolina. Dewey and Delores were divorced in 1972. Delores died in 1977.

In 1975, Dewey moved to Atlanta where he continued to work for General Motors as a manager at the Doraville plant. Several years after moving to Georgia, Dewey began shag dancing again and started making trips back to Myrtle Beach. After retiring from GM in July of 1987, he moved to North Myrtle Beach and became a fixture at places like "Duck's", "Harold's", and "Teddy's Grill". He was "retired and doing fine in Spo-De-OD"!

Dewey loved his shag dancing and his golf game and pursued both of those passions until the day he died. He became involved with the "Society of Shaggers" and enjoyed dancing in competitions just for fun. Dewey was the very first winner of the "Shell Award" in 1995, recognizing his place in the hearts of his friends and peers as everyone's favorite male dance partner.

Dewey "Tinker" Kennedy passed away on March 19, 1996. He was loved and respected by all that knew him and he will be missed. He is survived by his sister Opal, a son, three daughters, ten grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and more friends than could possibly be mentioned here.