



Eddie Monsour 1986

EDDIE MONSOUR

Name: Eddie Monsour
Age: Shaggers' don't age, they just get better
Raised: Roseboro, NC (45 minutes from the nearest dance floor)
Started Shagging: Born Shaggin'
Current Status: Still Shaggin'

Most of my life revolved around music one way or another, so it is hard to say where it all started. Most of my "Shag-Training" came from places like: "The Hayloft" in White Lake, NC, Williams' Lake and "Bop-City" at Carolina Beach. Let me take you back a few years.....I started Shaggin' when I was so young, they wouldn't let me up to the top of the stairs at "Bop-City."

Thinking back, my best years had to be the 50's. Myrtle Beach and Ocean Drive, a true test of endurance!! We would go down Easter weekend and come up for air around Labor Day! Best times had to be the cottage on Blueberry Hill. Twenty of us and two beds! I can remember walking back from the Pavillion, all of us howling our rendition of, "I found my thrill, on Blueberry Hill!" and what a thrill it was!

Favorite Shaggin' spots were: Spivey's, The Pavillion, and the Recreation Center at Myrtle Beach. The following is a "Who's Who" list of my most memorable "party animals!" Guys: Clayton McManaway, "Bo" McEachern, Jimmy Dinger, "Big" Burt Merrian, Leaky Thornton, Harry Driver, Charlie Boone, Shorty Crook, and Nelson Burton.... Dolls: Jean Allen, Betty Lou Hockaday, Millie Edwards, Betty Kirkpatrick, Vicky Shehdan, Clarice Reavis, Marilyn Hodge Smith, Martha Thebeau, Maxine Cannon.... there were so many of us!!! Working, living, loving and dancing on the beach!! The highlight of my life.

After pulling a tough 2 year Military stint in Hawaii, I returned to the states in 1955. The Shag appeared to be dormant for a few years. Then, much to my liking, it came back stronger than ever.

In 1963 I married "Miss Hartsville, SC" Kathryn Najim, truly my better half. We have three children, Tommy, Denise, & Eydie. Eydie has grown to love the dance as much as I do and appears to be the only one who will follow in her fathers' "Shag-steps." For the past 25 years we have owned and operated Eddie's Music center, Inc. Located in Cross Creek Mall, Fayetteville. You see, I just couldn't stay away from the music!

With all of the recent popularity of the Shag, it is easy for me to think how great we knew it was all along! In 1985 the greater Fayetteville Area Shag Association came together. I had the pleasure of being President upon it's conception. I was thrilled to be a part of something I have enjoyed most of my life.

Now the Shaggers' Hall Of Fame has given me the honor of being one of their own. I feel a little guilty accepting recognition for something I have loved as long as I can remember. As long as they play Shag music, I'll remember being a part of it from the very beginning.

"Little did I know, the thrill I found on Blueberry Hill, would hold for me a lifetime of fond memories!" Thanks to all of you for the good times past, and the ones yet to come!