

Bud Hunt 1987

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My first year at Myrtle Beach, S.C. was in 1939. Went down with a group from Sherrill's School of Dancing. They had dancing schools in Greenville, S.C. and Shelby, N.C. and would take their students to Myrtle Beach for the Summer. We performed at the old pavilion every night. Returned the Summer of 1940. Dot Payne Williams from Greenville, S.C. and "Little" Dan Turner from Shelby, N.C. taught me how to "fast dance".

By now I had that sand in my shoes - back to the beach the following years: 1941, '42, '43. Not sure of the sequence (this is a long stretch back down memory lane) but some of the places and people I remembr was living in the old bath house with Jimmy Calcutt, Big George Lineberry - Roomed at Twin Taverns, which Billie Williams mother owned - Worked at Gloria Grill, drink stand in pavilion, soda jerk at Nye's Drug Store, bingo and also pinched hit on the "African Dip". Improved on my "fast dancing" by watching Bob Black, Bum Taylor and Billy Jeffers, who were the big cats on the beach.

1944, '45, '46: Joined the Merchant Marines and went around the world a few times.

1947: Worked at International Paper Co in Georgetown, S.C. and lived at Pawley's Island. Weekends over to Myrtle Beach.

1948: Returned to Myrtle Beach with Buck Holcombe and D.B. Evans. Curt Ward had a "real job" so he would come down the weekends. Was a life guard at Chesterfield Inn. Roomed at the "Matchbox" with Dick Webb and Hendrix Wells. At our meals (beans) at the training table at Tuck & Bill's. Met my love, my dove that Summer, the former Dottie Grant from Charlotte, N.C. who was working at the Villa Ambrose.

1949: Time to get a "real job" now (or at least Dottie's mother thought so) - went with Southern Bell Tel. & Tel. Co. in Greenville, S.C. I currently have 38 years with this fine Company. Dottie and I were married in December of this year (I believe this beach romance may last). We have three children - a daughter and two sons, and our daughter has produced us two grandsons!

Wouldn't take anything for those beach days, which was an education in itself. Met so many people, which I could list all the names but would take a billboard to do so. A good many we have continued friendships thru the years. We would go back to the beach periodically but it was never quite the same until S.O.S. brought quite a few of us back together. Once you get that beach music in your blood it never leaves you. We are still shagging (or trying to)!!!