



RUSSELL LIVERMAN

Many men throughout the world, including the SHAG world, live by the time-honored slogan "...happy wife, happy life". This was again exemplified when Russell (...in his own words) "...*finally caved in (to my wife) and agreed to take Shag lessons*". But let's go back to the beginning!

Born in Norfolk, VA in 1950, Russell's first exposure to dance, at his wife's suggestion, was to "Clogging" and they became proficient enough to be the lead couple performing with a local clogging group at a Willie Nelson concert! Later, when she saw the 1988 movie "Shag", she thought that was a natural "next step" for a Clogger, and urged him to learn (with her, of course). It's unclear how long this "urging" lasted but, in 1999, they both started taking shag lessons from VSHOF members Marsha Ruth and Tom Edwards, followed over the years by more lessons from many, many great dancers, including members of not only the VA Shaggers HOF, but the Beach Shaggers National HOF and National Living Legends of Dance (NLLD).

Quickly finding a love for this dance form and making many new and close friends in the Shag World, they both became active and supportive members in their local shag club (Boogie on the Bay), as well as attending weekend Shag parties whenever and wherever possible. From his first party at the Chamberlain Hotel at Fort Monroe to the "Fall Cyclone/Twister" party in Mooresville, NC (and many more to follow), he found the Shag community was "...his kind of people"!

As his VSHOF sponsor Cindy Black wrote about him, "*(he) ... has strived to continue learning Shag, becoming a great dancer (and line dancer too!). Over the years, he has become a sought-after social dance partner. Whenever there is a job to do, no matter how big or small, (he) is there, sharing his knowledge and expertise, lending a helping hand for his shag dance friends on and off the dance floor spanning over 3 decades!*". Asked about what's next for him, this inductee humbly writes: "*To continue to support my home club and help it prosper. To continue to improve my dance. And enjoy LIFE with my Shag community*".