



BERT NOVOTNY (1987) (D)

Bert started dancing at church social dances in Brooklyn, NY. After joining the Navy in 1947, he was stationed in Norfolk, VA. While in Norfolk, he attended the Navy “Y” and U.S.O. dances. It seemed like everyone could dance so he soon joined in.

Bert danced at Ocean View and Virginia Beach, VA. After the Navy, his job consisted of traveling. He soon ended up in North Carolina where he danced at Groucho’s and the Steak and Ale in Charlotte, North Carolina and at the Columbia Shag Club in South Carolina, of which he was a member.

He and his wife, Catherine Reagan "Kitty" Novotny, went to the first S.O.S. in September 1980 at Ocean Drive. Bert continued to support the dance until his passing in 2015.

Bert and Kitty were charter members (1987) of the Virginia Shaggers Hall of Fame and members of the National Living Legends of Dance (1994), the National Bopper Hall of Fame and the Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame (BSNHOF). Bert and Kitty were inducted into the BSNHOF in 2003 as a recipient of the BSNHOF’s Charlie Boone award, of which only 13 members have been so honored.