

DANNY WILLIAMS¹ (2004, Honorary; 2009, Regular) (D)

Danny Williams was first inducted into the VSHOF as an Honorary Member in 2004. He was recognized as an active member of the Tidewater VA community who had consistently supported the Shag Community through participation behind the scenes, on the dance floor and through activities promoting our beloved Rhythm & Blues and Beach music. For Danny, his dance background made his VSHOF induction sort of a lifetime achievement award.

Danny began his dancing life on the Steel Pier in Atlantic City in the 1930's, jitterbugging to nonstop live big bands. He went on to serve a distinguished Naval career, including action in World War II in the Pacific Fleet, with medals for bravery and meritorious service. He was a member of the first tissue "transplant bank" at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center. Finally, retiring in 1974 with the rank of Commander, he landed in Norfolk VA. Of course, he immediately gravitated to the non-stop Beach dance scene. He found the shaggers' way of life inviting and generationally friendly. He joined the Tidewater Shag Club (now known as the Virginia Beach Shag Club) in the mid-'80s. No doubt his combat experience prepared him for extensive committee work, both on the Recruiting and the VBSC Bash Committees. He claimed to be a street dancer, and this apparently worked well for him, both locally and at SOS.

Mr. Williams passed on February 28, 2012.

¹ The VSHOF has no picture image to use with this profile and on the VSHOF webpage at: <https://www.vshof.com/members-menu-page/>. If someone has a reliable and suitable picture of Mr. Williams, please forward a copy to the VSHOF webmaster at: jmitchell30@cox.net.