

## **BENSON MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

3rd Quarter 2025 Donna Joyce (Lindsay) Jones *The Dancing Queen* 



Donna Joyce Lindsay was born and raised in Merced, California. She graduated from Livingston High School and attended Merced Community College where in addition to her core courses, her studies included tailoring.

In 1983 she met and married the love of her life, Sam Jones, Jr. Sam served in the United States Air Force for 26 years and together they had four children, the family even lived aboard for 12 years. After returning to the US and settling in South Carolina, Sam passed away in 1999. Ms. Donna, as she is affectionately called here at the Benson Center, remained in South Carolina, continued to raise her children, help with her grandchildren and later supporting other family members as a care giver.



Her passions, outside of her family, include volunteering, crafting (sewing, doll and jewelry making). The colorful cotton masks she made during the pandemic are legendary. Her other passion is dancing, especially line-dancing.

She moved to the Atlanta area in 2015 to be closer to her daughter and other family members who had relocated here. Ms. Donna now has eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



Ms. Donna's children: Sharon, Charla, Derrick and Tiffany



Ms. Donna and many of her grand & great grandchildren

After being told about and invited to the Benson Center by her neighbor, she joined immediately and has been an active member and volunteer since that time. She volunteers in the Benson Kitchen and in fact seasons and fries the wonderful fish that is on the lunch menu every Friday. She covers the front desk during especially busy times and is one of the center's tour guides.

Additionally, she teaches Line Dancing (Soulful Strut) every week here at the center. It is one of our most popular classes and she is fantastic. The Benson Beats Line Dance Team won the Gold Medal in the Fulton County Golden Games 3 consecutive years (2017, 2018 and 2019). Unfortunately, the annual Golden Games did not resume after the 2020 pandemic. If the event continued, no doubt the team would still be winning gold!





When asked what she enjoys most about the center, Ms. Donna says it is the comradery, the socializing, the variety and diversity of the members and the activities offered. She says for her, the Benson Center has been a "Lifesaver."