

# Dancing WITH Nancy

**NANCY ARRIVES LIKE** a celebrity, in a car that crunches up a gravel path to the lodge where a crowd of campers wait. The car pulls up to the door. Nancy steps out with the aid of two companions, her driver and granddaughter.

"Nancy!"

The veterans at Buffalo Mountain Camp know her and love her. The new kids are quickly swept up into the tradition. Nancy Collins, who will be 79 on Aug. 27, has been dancing with campers for 50 years.

The daughter of Holston pastor, the Rev. Carroll Skeen, Collins began working at Buffalo Mountain and other camps throughout out the South-eastern Jurisdiction as a teen. She majored in physical education at East Tennessee State University and has been leading games for children and senior citizens ever since. She suffers from vision problems now, yet continues to make the trek to Jonesborough every Wednesday night throughout the summer to delight campers and counselors with her brand of fun. Collins is a long-time member at Colonial Heights United Methodist Church in Kingsport, Tenn.

"I love the children, and I am grateful the Lord has given me the health to keep doing this," says Collins. When the children ask why she loves doing it, Nancy replies:

"Get your Bible out and read what it says about dancing. When we get to heaven, we'll all be singing and dancing and praising the Lord." ■



## song list

Nancy still uses a turntable and 45's to play some of her dance tunes. A partial list:

- Dance Little Birdie
- Ding Dong Daddy
- Lion Sleeps Tonight
- Tennessee Wig Walk
- Elvira
- Hokey Pokey
- Macarena
- King Tut
- King of the Road
- Alley Cat
- Cotton Eyed Joe
- Popcorn



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– PHOTOS BY ANNETTE SPENCE, THE CALL