

## Clark Raby

by Doug Kent

March 24, 1939 is perhaps the most important date for Mr. September (Mr. S), because it was the date that he was born the 5<sup>th</sup> of eight children on a small farm in Franklin, North Carolina. His mother stayed at home to raise the children, but his father worked construction and had to travel away from the farm to find work. Things were hard, but the family stayed together and things were fairly normal for Mr. S through his eight years at Cowee Elementary School and through 4 years at Franklin High School. An average student, Mr. S participated in the normal school activities and he liked the Latin and Science Club in High School. He and his friends played pick up sports, but Mr. S did not play any organized sports in school.

Upon graduation in 1957, Mr. S immediately went to Atlanta to find work. After a short stay with Sears, he found employment with the Trust Company of Georgia (Now SunTrust Bank). It did not take long for Mr. S to figure out that the key to his success in this world was more education. He began taking classes in the evening at Georgia State. In 1960 he met his "mentor", a successful Atlanta Architect, who further encouraged Mr. S to pursue his education. And pursue he did.

In 1966 Mr. S graduated from Oglethorpe University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business. Two significant things happened while pursuing his education. One, he began playing lots of tennis and two; upon graduation he lost his "Student Deferment". Un-daunted, Mr. S immediately began classes at the Atlanta Law School and graduated in 1970 with his Law Degree.

Uncle Sam was no longer interested in Mr. S and he worked a short time with a local law firm. He found this work unfulfilling and began settling and establishing complex estates. He found this work interesting and it provided the flexible hours he needed to play more tennis. He was able to establish his Estate Law Practice with several clients and over time his practice grew. In 1978 he completed the USPTA 3 day exam and he was now able to teach tennis and manage tennis tournaments. He traveled extensively throughout the Southeast running and establishing tournaments. His was fully participating in the "Good Life".

In 1998 his mentor passed away after a long illness. Mr. S spent time settling his mentor's estate. This was a difficult time for Mr. S and it took over two years to settle. Mr. S continued his tennis and Estate Practice and in 2007 met his current partner in the Tampa area.

Both wanted to move to Fort Lauderdale and in 2008 they found their current place in Palm Aire. Mr. S was now settled into retirement.

Traveling back and forth to North Carolina and the Atlanta area for investment and business reasons he once again was realizing the "Good Life" -- "Retirement" but this time with his partner. Mr. S enjoys the company of interesting older men; he is an avid tennis player and is very active in the Prime Timers. He has served on the Board and has developed several activities and programs for the group. He enjoys fine dining, classical music and lying naked next to a hairy older man.

