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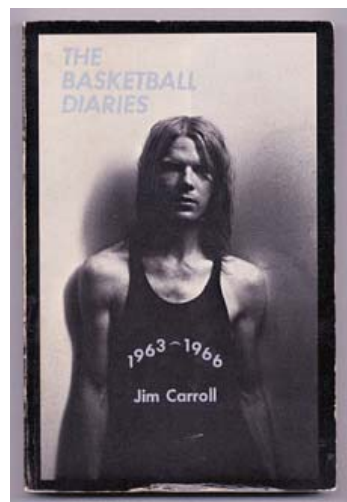
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# 'Basketball Diaries' author Jim Carroll dead at 60

September 14, 10:20 AM Miami Celebrity Headlines Examiner Ashley Guistolisi

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Jim Carroll, punk rock poet and author of *The Basketball Diaries*, has died. He was 60.

Rosemary Klemfuss, who was married to Carroll for nearly a decade before the couple divorced in the mid-eighties, claims the artist died of a heart attack in his Manhattan home on Friday.

*The Basketball Diaries*, Carroll's most famous work, was published in 1978 and revealed his troubled youth as a basketball star and heroin addict at Manhattan's elite Trinity School in the 1960s. The book was turned into a film in 1995, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Wahlberg, and Juliette Lewis.

"I met him in 1970, and already he was pretty much universally recognized as the best poet of his generation," the singer Patti Smith said in a telephone interview with *The New York Times* on Sunday. "The work was sophisticated

and elegant. He had beauty."

More About: Jim Carroll

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