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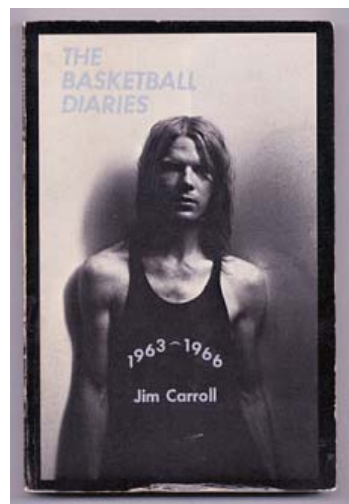
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# 'Basketball Diaries' author Jim Carroll dead at 60

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."

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