

Monday, September 14

## Jim Carroll R.I.P.

Musician and author of *The Basketball Diaries* dies of heart attack at 60



Photo by Eric Hamilton

*The New York Times* [reports](#) that the writer and musician [Jim Carroll](#) died in his Manhattan apartment on Friday. Ex-wife Rosemary Carroll says the cause of death was a heart attack. He was 60.

As the frontman of the Jim Carroll Band, Carroll recorded a couple of totally indelible slices of jagged, grimy new wave in "People Who Died" and

"Catholic Boy". Carroll, already renowned as a poet, formed the band in the late 1970s. The band, signed to Atlantic Records after Keith Richards arranged a deal, recorded three albums before breaking up in the mid 80s. Carroll also released the 1998 solo album *Pools of Mercury*, and he collaborated with Lou Reed, Rancid, and Blue Öyster Cult.

More than music, though, Carroll is famous for *The Basketball Diaries*, his fascinating 1978 memoir of being a smack-addicted high school beatnik basketball star in mid-60s Manhattan. The follow-up memoir, *Forced Entries*, covers the years when Carroll kicked around Andy Warhol's Factory.

Check below for a video of Carroll doing "People Who Died".

