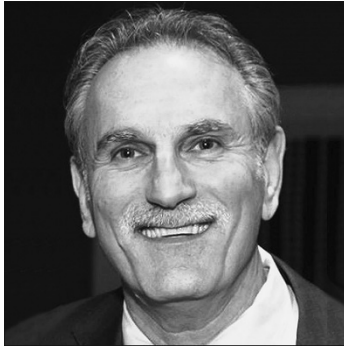


Scott M Bock (1956-2021): Biography



Scott M. Bock was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1956. He told anyone who would listen that his love of the blues was related to a heart condition, which doctors predicted would lead to an early death. His heart beat irregularly, frequently requiring hospitalization.

Scott found the insistent beat of this music comforting and the vocals powerful and healing. He somehow lived through the heart condition and the blues and became a central aspect of his life.

As the Founder and CEO of Riverside Community Care, for nearly 40 years Scott was running a large mental health and human service organization just outside of Boston. In any time he could eek out, he hunted for records, photographed his favorite artists, and wrote stories about them. Eventually, most of his vacations included trips to interview musicians and to travel or hang out with them.

Scott eventually published 400 feature stories on musicians ranging from Millie Jackson and Lazy Lester to Robert Randolph and Gary Clark, Jr. His 5,000 piece record collection is now housed at the Miller Nichols Library at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. His blues and African artwork is located at the Sherrill Library at Lesley College in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Scott spent significant time in Lafayette, Louisiana; Austin and Dallas Texas; as well as Mississippi and Illinois. He often interviewed artists in their homes and focused on men and women who might never have their history recorded despite a rich history in music.

Scott's effort to document blues men and women typically meant sitting with artists for a few hours and taping their conversation and then transcribing all that was said. He often learned things about the artists that had never been revealed before. Millie Jackson and Sugar Blue's stories are good examples of gaining a complete story of artists lives that had never been shared before.

His writing can be found in Living Blues, Blues & Rhythm (UK), Block (Netherlands), Juke (UK), Soul Bag and ABS (France) and several other publications as well as on dozens of liner notes.

After Scott's death from cancer in 2021, his colleagues posted this [lovely tribute](#). His [obituary](#) ran in The Boston Globe.