

Oct. 16, 2006

Dear Greg,

We don't know each other, but we certainly know about each other. I am Fred Rugh's friend, and former drummer for Soul, Inc. - Skip Davis. I wanted to tell you how impressive the book is. Certainly the story of the music, musicians, and the great crowds that made it all so special is perfectly captured. But you achieved so much more than just a book about Beach Music. You captured the spirit of an era, a time of innocence as compared to the world today, and showed a whole culture that existed for young people from Louisiana to Virginia. A culture unique to the southeast of the late fifties until the late sixties. This is almost a social/historical manuscript in its detail of a way of life that once existed, disappeared, then made a huge resurgence once again.

As I turn the pages I see the people I knew, worked with, and loved for so many years. It brought back memories like a flood, and reminded me how lucky I was to have been a part of that time.

I continued my career after Soul, Inc. with membership in the rock bands, Freedom, then Fire and Rain, and so many of the figures from one era translated to the next. But the lessons I learned from my days in Beach Music made me and my bands so much more successful than I would have been had I not had that school of music that the beach music taught me.

This book is amazing! It operates on so many different levels,



that I really can't put into words the magic you captured.

I know this was a true labor of love on your part, and you and all the people who are associated with its publication should feel a fierce pride in the quality of this work. This book will last for generations - its history, and as well done as anything I've ever seen.

I just wanted to say thanks for touching so many chords from the past, and so many hearts. You have done something unique and timeless, and you have my respect, gratitude, and heart-felt congratulations.

With great respect and thanks,

Skip Varis  
(Soul, Inc.)

P.S.

I believe your book sales will be astronomical - and you deserve everything in the world for this wonderful story.

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