

<http://nyti.ms/1yLjF8q>

The *NY Times* obituary notes, without elaboration, “In the early 1960s, he toured with the singer Bobby Vee’s band.” This group of Fargo, ND musicians filled in the night in 1959 when Ritchie Valens, The Big Bopper, and Buddy Holly died in the plane crash, leaving Iowa for Minnesota. Among the group’s members was the very young Robert Zimmerman, a/k/a Bob Dylan, from Hibbing, Minnesota. So in time, this Bobby Vee group had two wicked musicians in it, apart from Vee himself.

“Brown Sugar” has always been among my favorite Stones songs, with Bobby Keys on the sax, and he played with them off and on for many years. He was such a towering sax player, matched only by the late Clarence Clemons and Van Morrison, IMHO, that I had always thought he had been playing with them since the beginning, such as on “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction,” (with its opening Keith Richards’ Gibson Maestro fuzzbox sounding like a great rock sax riff) but his obit makes it clear he joined them later, about the time of “Goats Head Soup” (1973). Even so, in his honor, I will be playing “Brown Sugar” in rotation all day.

RIP Bobby Keys, one of the many unsung sidemen of rock and roll. He was “unsung” in the sense of public acclaim, but he played with most of the greats. Try this version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5e3zQn6Dr8> .

Remember that you can sign up on my new website, and radio stations can download my radio show: www.lawofrockandroll.com . I am very pleased that so many of you have gone on and used it already.

Happy Holidays to all my Posse members,

Michael
Michael A. Olivas