

Scott Geoffrey Rapaport was born on June 19, 1954 in Bangor, Maine and was the son of A. David and Mildreth (Finn) Rapaport and brother to younger sisters Jayne Gandler of Rockville, Maryland and Susan Sacks of Brookline, Massachusetts. Scott grew up in Bangor and attended Bangor public schools. He was a graduate of Bangor High School, Class of 1972. Scott attended the Jewish Community Center Hebrew School and was the recipient of the 1967 Myer Minsky Award. Scott was the great-grandson of Solomon Harris who was one of the founding fathers of Bangor's Beth Israel Synagogue.

Scott had a passion for musical entertainment. Like many teens growing up in the sixties, Scott wanted to be a Beatle. He began his musical career at age 13 with a band named the Legitimate Excuse. Their first paid gig was for a middle school dance at Garland Street Junior High School. Music was his driving force. He performed with numerous bands during the course of his 50 year musical career including New Orleans based band Vince Vance and Valiants, St. Elmo's Fire, Eastern Standard Trio, Jump City Social Club, 20th Century Band, Tzena! Tzena! and the Souled Out Band. A community musician, he was an accompanist for musical productions in the greater Bangor area, as well as a member of the Bangor Band, and a valued jamming buddy.

Scott, a talented woodwinds player was also blessed with a knack for improvisation; he was a skilled rhythm and blues and jazz performer and had a beautiful tenor singing voice. Scott was a music educator and was capable of playing many instruments. As a band leader he filled the Master of Ceremonies role at many social events, weddings and bar mitzvahs. He maintained a lifestyle devoted to all forms of education and musical performance; joining several ensembles, as leader, a member or fan. He could blend or he could stand out. Harmony was his practice, in every sense of the word. A talented musician, Scott had an intuition for opportunity, an ear for music, a mind for learning, a heart for healing, and a voice to share as a testament of his spirit. He could have been a musician in any large city but chose to reside in this home town of Bangor, Maine where he was recognized as an outstanding musician.

Scott earned his Associates Degree in Musical Performance from the University of Maine at Augusta in 1981, a B.A. in Music Education from the University of Maine, Orono in 1983 and an M.Ed. in Community Counseling from the University of Maine, Orono in 1994. Scott studied Cantorial Music at Nev Shechter Jewish Theological Seminary in Jerusalem. In 1987 he began what would become a 30 year role leading High Holiday services with song and spirit as the Cantor for Etz Chaim Synagogue in Biddeford, Maine.

Despite his cross country tours and world travels, he settled back where his journey began, in Bangor, Maine. As he brought up his family, so too did he bring up the communities that surrounded. Mental health clients from all walks of life would come across his path, and rather than diverge, he dove in; meeting people on their level and maintaining relationships grounded in healing through hard knocks and shared truth.

A perpetual student and natural teacher, Scott had many interests. He was an avid reader, hypnotist, auctioneer, real estate agent, Hebrew School teacher, Cub Scout Leader and counselor. Scott was a dedicated family man who enjoyed hiking, biking, ice skating, walking along the ocean and vacationing with his family. His sense of humor was rich and ever-ready with a wit that would not quit. In addition to his musical career, Scott was a public school music teacher and Licensed Clinical Counselor. He worked for several local mental health agencies providing counseling services and helping many clients.

Scott married his wife Patti Roy Rapaport in August, 1988 at Beth Israel Synagogue. They had two sons; Samuel Louis and Benjamin Harris. Like his father, Smilin' Dave, Scott raised his family just blocks from where he grew up.