

JANE DENEEFE



# ROCKET CITY

## ROCK & SOUL



Huntsville  
MUSICIANS  
REMEMBER THE 1960s



Foreword by Frye Gaillard

# ROCKET CITY ROCK & SOUL

HUNTSVILLE MUSICIANS REMEMBER THE 1960s

*For Dave  
Peace Loves History!  
Jane*

*Jane DeNeefe*

JANE DENEEFE

Foreword by Frye Gaillard

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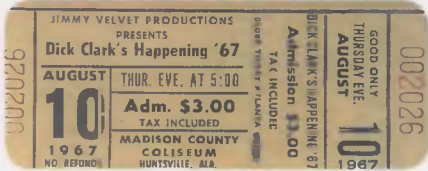
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Amid the  
uncertainty  
of the 1960s,  
**SOMETHING SPECIAL**  
was happening  
in Huntsville,  
Alabama.



IN A STATE WIDELY CONSIDERED ground zero for civil rights struggles, Huntsville became an unlikely venue for racial reconciliation. Huntsville's recently formed NASA station drew new residents from throughout the country, and across the world, to the Rocket City. This influx of fresh perspectives informed the city's youth. Soon, dozens of vibrant rock bands and soul groups, characteristic of the era but unique in Alabama, were formed. Set against the bitter backdrop of segregation, Huntsville musicians—black and white—found common ground in rock and soul music. Whether playing to desegregated audiences, in desegregated bands or both, Huntsville musicians were boldly moving forward, ushering in a new era. Through interviews with these musicians, local author Jane DeNeeff recounts this unique and important chapter in Huntsville's history.



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