January 14, 2013

Kathy Lale, Sherrill Music

1022 18th S. Ave. #B

Nashville, TN 37212

Dear Ms. Lale,

I mailed the letter coped below to your father’s home address. I don’t know the protocol for contacting him; so I’m trying to cover all bases. Forgive me if I seem pushy. I’m bothering you one more time to request that you help arrange a telephone conversation with your father. Here’s the letter I sent him:

Dear Mr. Sherrill,

I’ve written you once before, but I want to repeat my request for a telephone interview. I’m writing a book to be titled *Producing Country*. It’s an oral history, and it’s under contract with Wesleyan University Press.

This is not understatement: My project has one gaping hole in it. It lacks comments on production from you. In the course of my research I have spoken with Bobby Braddock, Reggie Young, and Larry Cohn. I asked all of them a question or two about your work. But that’s too second-hand. I also spoke Bob Johnston. He brought up your recordings and sang your praises, but then told me what I already knew. He said that I simply had to speak with you.

I am hoping that this is possible. Would you grant me a telephone interview? I can be reached, most easily, at home: (717) 852-3283. You could also contact me via email (jmj3@psu.edu) . If you are willing to talk, you could give me a convenient time to call and your phone number, or, alternatively, you could tell me (or my answering machine) when to be ready for your call. I’m available most of the time, day or evening, except for daytimes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Bobby Braddock can attest to the legitimacy of this project and to the care I take ensuring that interviews are accurately recorded.

Sincerely,

Michael Jarrett