

Buster Benton □ – Bluesbuster (1979)

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*A1 Spider In My Stew A2 Born With The Blues A3 Sweet 94 A4 Love Like I Wanna
A5 Leave Me Alone B1 Sorry B2 Funny About My Money B3 Lonesome For A Dime
B4 Do It In The Rain B5 Disco Blues* Bass – Nolan Struck Drums – Ray Allison (tracks:
A2 - A5, B1 - B5) Guitar – Jimmy Johnson Guitar [Lead] – Buster Benton Harmonica – Carey
Bell Piano – Lafayette Leake Saxophone [Tenor] – Ron Scott Vocals – Buster Benton

Buster Benton (July 19, 1932 – January 20, 1996) was an American blues guitarist and singer, who played guitar in Willie Dixon's Blues All-Stars, and is best known for his solo rendition of the Dixon-penned song "Spider in My Stew." He was tenacious and in the latter part of his lengthy career, despite the amputation of parts of both his legs, Benton never stopped playing his own version of Chicago blues.

Dixon was credited as the songwriter of Benton's best known song, "Spider in My Stew." Released on the Shreveport-based Jewel Records label, it gave Benton a modicum of fame, and his 1974 follow-up, "Money Is the Name of the Game," helped to cement his standing. Benton's 1978 effort for Jewel's Ronn Records subsidiary (also titled *Spider in My Stew*) became recognized as one of the more engaging Chicago blues albums of its time.

Benton recorded three further albums on the Ichiban label, but in comparison to his work on the Ronn label, they were uncommercial. One such LP offering was 1989's, *Money's The Name of The Game*, produced by Gary B.B. Coleman. Benton also issued a record on the Blue Phoenix label. Benton's fortitude did not go unnoticed. He suffered from the effects of diabetes and received dialysis for the final years of his life. In addition, in 1993, part of his right leg was amputated due to poor circulation, having already lost a portion of the other some ten years previously. He soldiered on, playing his brand of the blues up to his death. However, as journalist, Tony Russell, stated in his book *The Blues: From Robert Johnson to Robert Cray*,

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Benton "never found another money spider".

Benton died in January 1996, in Chicago, from the effects of diabetes, at age 63. His work has appeared on a number of compilation albums, including Chicago Blues Festival: 1969-1986 (2001) --- smokestacklightnin.com

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