



WHAT SHIRLEY TAUGHT ME ABOUT LIFE AND LOVE



David doesn't deny it for a minute... "I'm interested in everything about David Cassidy I can find!"

Then with a grin lighting up his still very boyish face, he adds, "But that's the way it should be, you know. And I have it from the very best authority on life and love around—Shirley Jones Cassidy herself—that that's the formula for happiness."

Shirley Jones Cassidy is, of course, David's beautiful and talented stepmother.

After David's parents were divorced, David lived with his mum in New Jersey most of the time and occasionally visited his dad's new family as it grew with the addition of a couple of kid brothers. Eventually David, too, moved out to California and as he became closer to his dad's new family he began to see Shirley... "not as a mother—I have a mother and we get along

fine so I didn't need any substitutes—but as a friend. A really great and special friend. And the fact that she was the mum of my two brothers," he grinned, "helped a lot because sometimes when I'd have things to discuss with her and couldn't find the words to explain, she'd nod her head and say... 'oh, that's so much like your father'... or 'your brother Shaun said something very much like that the other day... I mean, Shirley and I are on the same wavelength; maybe even more than my dad and I.'"

Reporters are always asking David if there's anyone special in his life, and if he were to give them a completely honest answer, says David, he'd actually have to tell them: "I'm the special one in my life."

Hold on now, if you think David sounds terribly self-centred... just let him explain...

"I have a lot of soul searching to do and