

put it, "He didn't seem to enjoy what he was doing."

If there is doubt whether Elvis still enjoys what he does after all these years, about David there is none whatsoever. He loves to perform. His parents, Jack Cassidy and Evelyn Ward, are both actors, and David decided at the age of four that he wanted to act, too. He has been singing since he was three.

Now that he's fulfilled his wildest dreams of fame, he still has ambitions. After all, he knows the kind of success he is now enjoying can only be temporary. When the show ends and his fans grow up, David wants to have his own recording studio and eventually go into film production.

One of his girlfriends, Robyn Miller, who met David when she guested on *The Partridge Family*, has her own opinion of David's reaction to the overwhelming pressures of fame. "He really knows how to handle his success," she says simply.

David looks young (perhaps because, as astrologers say, people born under the sign of Aries always appear to be younger than they are). But he acts every bit of his age. He knows who he is, what he's doing and where he's going, and doesn't need anyone to tell him what to do. As Robyn went on to say, "His career comes first; he knows what he wants, and I know he'll get it."

David's other major problem is the family difficulties he has known all of his life.

His parents' marriage ended when he was only five, and from then on he and Jack Cassidy were virtually strangers. David lived with his mother in New Jersey, then in Los Angeles, and it wasn't until he was out of school and trying for an acting career that he really got to know his father.

When he was 18, Jack and his second wife Shirley Jones, David's stepmother and *Partridge Family* co-star, appeared together in the Broadway musical *Maggie Flynn*. David was then in his

own first Broadway musical, *The Pig Leaves Are Falling*, and he stayed with Jack and Shirley in New York.

With Shirley, he was able to establish an immediate bond. It was not so easy with his father, from whom he had been so estranged. "I'm not really a member of his family. I'm his son but I never really lived with him after I was five or six. He left, I think, when I was five," he

David is close to his co-star Susan Day, but there is no romantic interest between them. "Since I was 17 I never dated many girls my own age," he says. He likes his girls to be a little older.

