

Cassidy relatives—nearly always spent the Christmas holidays together. On the Christmas that David was four, Evelyn was given a camera—so she had a ball during the holiday season snapping David and Barbara opening their presents and playing together.

“It’s hard to remember when David *didn’t* have girl friends,” Evelyn recalls. “I guess it must have started when he—being the only boy born that week during my stay in the hospital—became the maternity ward ‘pet’ of all the nurses at the Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital.”

Evelyn noticed shortly after her return home with David that when women offered their arms to him, he went to them quite readily. He went to men too, of course, but somehow he showed *just a little* more enthusiasm when a lady would say, “Oh, what a cute baby”—and would clap her hands together and say, “Come to me.”

“Since I have no other children, I don’t have another son to compare David to—so I don’t know whether his behavior with women and girls was ordinary or unusual,” Evelyn says. “But I do know there was never a time from about age three on that David didn’t have not only one girl friend, but several—sometimes several dozen!”

Evelyn remembers that little girls were always coming by the house to see David, or play with him or talk with him. She laughingly says, “It seems to me like they were *always* coming in and out the windows! David played with little boys too, but the occasions were few compared to the time he spent with girls. And he never had arguments or fights with his girl friends. He was always the boss—in charge, that is—but he was never bossy. It seems as though from the beginning he had a particular fondness and respect for girls. He never went through that awful ponytail-pulling, girl-baiting period most boys go through.”

It’s not unlikely that David’s taste for the opposite sex was instilled in him early, for his grand-moms (Ward and Cassidy, that is), his mom and his cousin Barbara were bright, spirited, interesting and good-natured; at the same time they had a subdued, calm, sincere and very open-minded way about them. They never nagged, were never jealous and were never unreasonable. And they moved, acted and conducted themselves in such a way as to fill David full of admiration and tenderness.

As a child, David was not quite as big as the other boys his age. But this never bothered him, for the innate strength and manliness in his nature overcame



At three, David sat with his “Grandma Cassidy”.

David and Cousin Barbara with their Christmas goodies—he was three and a half and she was five.

