



# DAVID: HIS ENDLESS TEARS

David spent a lot of nights crying himself to sleep and dreaming of playing baseball with his father, and fishing, and doing things his friends did with their fathers.

Eventually, David got to know his father's new wife, Shirley Jones, and grew to love her as a second mother. When Jack and Shirley had three sons of their own, it was David who became their "big brother," and David who made sure they established the kind of father-son relationships with Jack that he had only lately begun to enjoy.

## EVERYTHING WAS COMING TOGETHER

Things were going so well. He finally had the family life that he used to dream about. His career was off to a very good start, and he had good friends who made life fun and worthwhile! He almost felt that he might never shed another tear again ... in his whole life!

That was definitely the wrong thing for David to think for even a moment. Life just isn't all happiness. There is bound to be sorrow in everyone's life. And for David, who is a hundred times more sensitive than the average person, sorrow was just waiting around the corner ... hoping to catch him off guard.

For several weeks, David had felt sudden flashes of pain around the area of his stomach. He shrugged them off, figuring it was just indigestion. But the last two nights had been unbearable! Stretched out on his bed, trying to get some sleep, the pain seared through him like a

**D**avid Cassidy is a sensitive, emotional person. He has been all his life. As a little boy, he wept openly whenever his feelings were hurt, or if he thought he had hurt those of someone else.

He still remembers the day he found out his parents, Jack Cassidy and Evelyn Ward, were getting divorced. It was hard to explain to six-year old David why Mommy and Daddy weren't going to live together in the same house anymore. Somehow he thought he had something to do with their not loving each other anymore. He promised them he'd be a good boy, he'd clean his room, and they wouldn't even have to buy him any more toys! Just please stay together!

Of course all his pleas couldn't change the course of events, and his parents divorced. For years, his father was just a signature on a letter, an occasional phone call, and an even less occasional visit in person.

