



David and Sue think little Beau Devin Cassidy is a "miracle baby". They'd given up hope of having a child, and then three weeks after her mother had a stroke, Sue discovered she was pregnant

In the Seventies his posters took up more bedroom wall space than fitted wardrobes (and he was even pasted up inside those), his records topped the charts and his squeaky-clean show *The Partridge Family* (pictured far left), made him and co-stars Shirley Jones and Susan Dey, household names around the world — but by 1975 David Cassidy had had enough.

The pressure of becoming a millionaire by the time he was 21, working seven days a week on the TV show, recording and touring — he did 350 concerts in 17 countries — had taken their toll, and he decided to retire while he was ahead.

Now, coming up to his 41st birthday, David Cassidy knows it sounds clichéd but he says he really is "happier than I've been".

With two failed marriages (to actress Kay Lenz and racehorse breeder Meryl Tanz) and almost three-and-a-half years of psychoanalysis behind him, David Cassidy is now ready to marry for the third time and has just become a father — something that he thought would never happen.

"Sue and I have been together for about four-and-a-half years now and we had pretty much resigned ourselves to not being parents," he says candidly, referring to attractive songwriter Sue Shifrin, who shares his sprawling Californian hillside home with him.

"I'd never considered having

children in my previous marriages and I guess I'd got to the point where I was looking at the rest of my life and thinking: 'I'm not going to do this'.

"Sue had never been pregnant and the chances were next to nil, but just three weeks after her mum had a stroke Sue found out she was going to have a child — so it was like a miracle baby," he says, cuddling his month-old son.

Beau Devin Cassidy weighed 9lb 3oz when he was delivered by Caesarean section on February 8, during a two-month break that his father had taken from touring and promoting *David Cassidy*, his first US album in 14 years.

"I can't imagine anything more spectacular or rewarding than Beau's birth ever happening to me," he says softly, still overcome at his and Sue's good fortune.

"I think taking these months off is probably the most worthwhile thing I've ever done. I cut the umbilical cord and the whole thing was such a spectacular event that I'm so glad I was part of it. I guess the expression 'proud father' really applies to me," he laughs.

Sue could barely walk during the last few weeks of pregnancy because Beau was so heavy, and that's why he was delivered two weeks early, but you won't catch her complaining.

"He is the most wonderfully peaceful baby. It is amazing, for I was so stressed during the

