

David Cassidy Is Back

Like his half-brother, Shaun Cassidy, David Cassidy was at the very top of the music scene. His music career had grown from his role in *The Partridge Family* (the series about a family who became a professional rock group) and fans mobbed him wherever he went. His records were smash hits. His live concerts were all sold out. *The Partridge Family* was in the top-10 TV ratings. Suddenly, he gave it all up! David Cassidy dropped from sight! Why?

"I was overworked," explained David in answer to the question which had everyone so baffled. "It was a question of physical necessity...I was putting in 18 hours a day, seven days a week, and the point comes when you ask yourself, 'How much is enough?' I finally said, 'Enough!'"

That was four years ago—enough time off for rest, recuperation, and even marriage (to actress Kay Lenz). Now, David Cassidy is back! This time he's concentrating on acting, not singing, though he hasn't given music up entirely. Acting was *always* what he wanted to do.

"I never wanted to be a rock star," David admitted. "It just happened...Shaun is different. He enjoys what he's doing." The single greatest satisfaction David received from super-stardom, he said in an interview, was "reaching and touching a lot of people. I liked being able to touch a lot of lives."

He returned to his first love, acting, in the role of Officer Dan Shay, an undercover cop in a two-hour *Police Story* drama entitled "A Chance To Live." His performance gained him an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor. And audience response to the program was so good, NBC made it into a series, *David Cassidy—Man Undercover*. The series, for which he, incidentally, wrote and recorded the theme song, was short-lived however. But the 28-year-old star is not discouraged. There are other projects he's working on in acting and singing. Besides, his late actor/singer father, Jack Cassidy, once told him, "Talent will survive!" And after four years of being away, it's obvious David Cassidy has still got it!

