

to be that way at all. In fact, Kevin seemed to thrive on their friendship. . . . As though his knowing David gave him a right to share in his success. Then David had another idea.

He suggested that, when he and Sam fixed up a new place to live, Kevin might like to move in with them. He hoped that they'd be able to lift him out of his depressions. . . . Maybe even encourage him to kick the drug habit.

Perhaps it would have worked.

But Kevin died before the idea could be put to the test. It was too late. There was nothing David could do. Nothing, that is, except go to his friend's funeral.

For a while David felt angry—angry with life and with himself. It seemed crazy, but somehow he, personally, felt a sense of guilt. It was completely irrational, but that didn't make it any the less powerful. David had done all he could—and more.

He had been one of Kevin's best and closest friends. But because of that very fact he felt he should have been able to stop this terrible tragedy

## WORTH LIVING

There must have been something else he could have done. . . . Something that would have convinced Kevin that life was worth living. Without drugs.

Not surprisingly, this has been a phase in his life that David has been reluctant to talk about. It still affects him deeply whenever he thinks about Kevin. And he does that often. You know, people don't always realise this side of David's character. They see the great success David has found in his own life, and often they don't attempt to look any further.

They tend to forget that the superstar, David Cassidy, hasn't always had it easy. . . . There have been times when everything in the garden has been a long way from being rosy. David has had more than his fair share of grief, disappointment and crisis in his life.

Kevin's death was one of the griefs and one of the crises. And David cannot simply brush such sorrow aside because it is in the past. Perhaps that is what helps to make him such a fine and sensitive actor. He has learned a great deal of technique during his acting career. But the key to the truly compelling quality of his work is that, when all is said and done, he acts from the heart.

It's true that his early days with the Partridge Family didn't demand too much of this calibre of

acting from him. But, then, he was only just starting and the producers and scriptwriters had to feel him out.

It was only natural that they'd put the main responsibility for the first few shows on to Shirley and Dave Madden. After all, they were established actors with years of experience behind them. . . .

But it didn't take them long to realise that, in David Cassidy, they'd gotten hold of a real hot property!

Here was a pretty face who could act as well!

As soon as they realised that, they started writing in more for David and centring quite a few of the scripts on him. And, of course, by that time David had proved to them that he really could sing, too. So they wouldn't be needing another guy to 'sing' Keith Partridge any more!

From now on David would be doing it all himself — apart from the guitar-playing. Because, although he played guitar a bit, he was the first to admit that he was a very long way off recording standard yet!

The minute Wes Farrell heard him sing, he confirmed all David's hopes. His voice was not yet that of a polished recording artist. But all the raw material was there. He had a great sense of rhythm, a good ear, and — above all — an indefinable quality which managed to suggest youth without the irritation that a really young voice can often bring with it.

As for Danny, Jeremy and Suzanne, they were all game to have a go! But it was decided that they were really rather too young to achieve the professional finish needed for the records.

Certainly, there was no enthusiasm lacking on their side! Jeremy took up drums as soon as he was cast and found he had a real feel for them. Danny started taking lessons on bass guitar. Susan learned the basics on keyboard, and little Suzanne tried her hand at any instrument she could lay hold of!

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ON SALE MARCH 1st

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David and Susan performing outdoors in one of the early shows

