

David Cassidy, far left, at age thirteen, with stepmom Shirley Jones and his beloved half-brothers. He was six when his mom and Jack Cassidy were divorced.

"She realized he couldn't, of course," this same friend reveals, "and she didn't make a big fuss about it when he returned to California. She does want all the things for David that he wants for himself, including his success. But it's that very success which has torn him from her physically, and you can't blame her if she isn't as thrilled by it as everybody else."

All the same, when David, himself, showed signs of being scared stiff by his own success, it was Evelyn, as well as Jack Cassidy and Shirley Jones, who talked to him and tried to keep him from being frightened.

He would run away at the first sign of reporters, fans or any kind of publicity. He would literally hide out from anyone who had anything to do with his public life. But Evelyn knew he had chosen a life in the public eye because he really wanted it, and she did want him to be happy and at ease with his success. But she couldn't deny that the success had
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