



David and Shirley are now the very best of friends.



When David Cassidy talks about Evelyn Ward, his real mother, he is quick to stress the fact that it is *she*—not stepmom Shirley Jones—who has made him what he is today. David is upset because he feels that people have been giving Shirley all the praise, while ignoring his flesh and blood mother. “She’s really responsible for any success I have and for the kind of person I am,” he says. “More than anybody else, she molded me. She was the biggest influence on me.”

David’s mother did actually give up a lot for her son. Evelyn Ward was appearing in the chorus of a Broadway show when she met Jack Cassidy, also in the cast. They wed, and both continued their careers, even after the birth of their son, David. When the marriage didn’t work out and Jack and Evelyn divorced, Evelyn gave up her acting

