

# Just between Just



Last issue we tried to project ourselves into the future by guessing which ones of the new shows would last. All in all, we didn't do too badly. **Sanford & Son**, as predicted, is a natural winner. As a matter of fact, this show was the only one of the newest to find itself in the Nielsen Top Ten. Produced by the same people that put together **All In The Family**, Redd Foxx, as the star, ties the show together with the same timing and comedic genius that Carroll O'Connor was blessed with.

At last, Don Rickles has found his place on TV. Rated number 33 in the Nielsen's, which is a fair showing, it looks like this one, with some additions and subtractions, could turn out to be a longtime regular.

One daytime series we're anxiously awaiting is **Peyton Place**. Replacing **Bright Promise** and based on the original premise that Grace Metalious wrote about, we have great hopes for this show. Let us not forget such stars as Mia Farrow and Ryan O'Neal came out of the original series. And the top brass on this one has rehired lots of the same staff—writers, etc.—that were connected with the first long-running series. Hope their casting is as good as the initial hit—it makes all the difference in the world.

**Flash**—Burt Reynolds and his sweetie, Dinah Shore, are rumored to be ready to tie the knot. More on that next issue.

Until then, don't forget your ballot. Read on and enjoy!

*Doreen Nade*

SHIRLEY JONES

*/continued from page 22*

Naturally, David was a little bitter and fully prepared to dislike his dad's new wife. But Shirley won him over with her kindness and the interest she took in young David's life. When her own children—Shaun, Patrick and Ryan—came along, she in no way tried to shut David out or to make him feel that he was less a part of the family than her own flesh and blood sons were.

Today, David seems to be closer to his stepmom than he is to his father. Working together on their top TV show, *The Partridge Family*, has thrown David and Shirley into a close work relationship from which they have benefited in their private lives, as well. Shirley takes a genuine interest in David's career and his life in general. She has spent long hours trying to help him learn to cope with his new status. From her success in *Oklahoma*, Shirley learned the hard way how overnight fame can be hard to take, and she's trying to help David get acclimated to fame and fortune without letting it go to his head. The main reason David is such an unspoiled, modest person today is because of the guidance he has received from his mother and his stepmom.

David has also given Shirley a great deal—perhaps even more than her husband. He is always there, ready to listen to her problems, helping her with her children (who openly adore their big brother). When the three boys decided they wanted to emulate David by being on *The Partridge Family*, David, who knew Shirley had no desire for her children to become child stars, helped talk them out of it. He persuaded them to follow his example and graduate from high school before pursuing a career. In this matter, as in many others, David acted almost like a proxy father to Shaun, Patrick and Ryan. Shirley knows she can always depend on David.

And what about Jack? At this writing, he is keeping his own hotel room in a posh Beverly Hills Hotel and spends more time there than he does with his wife and family. And Shirley seems to think that's just fine. As one Hollywood source put it, "She's laughing all the way to the divorce court."

What, you might wonder, has a woman whose marriage is falling apart got to laugh at?

The answer is: *Plenty!*

Shirley is one of the most well-loved women in Hollywood. Simple and unpretentious but extremely witty and intelligent, she is in demand at all parties and gatherings. There are more than a few men who are just waiting in the wings for Shirley to become available—as a date or even as a future wife. All Shirley has to do is publicly declare her marriage at an end and her telephone will start ringing constantly. She has no worry about facing long, lonely nights by herself.

For another thing, it's more than small consolation to Shirley that she's reached the pinnacle of a long, successful career. As the feminine lead on *Partridge*, she's gained a huge following. If she should choose

*(Continued on page 66)*