



↑ On their TV show, *The Partridge Family*, David's make-believe brothers and sisters think he's tops. Here's Danny Bonaduce, (left) Suzanne Crough and Brian Forster (right), the youngest Partridges, and big sister, Susan Dey. How do they really feel about David—And how do they get along offstage?



Danny Bonaduce and Shirley Jones pay a visit to Dave Madden, who's managed to get himself into a tight spot, on an episode in *The Partridge Family*, the ABC TV Network's hit series.

that he isn't smug and self-satisfied, not at all. Instead, he always tries to improve himself, and he looks toward the future, when there'll be other roles, other successes. He feels that he still has a lot to learn, and he's quite open in suggestions.

Shirley knows that although David is outwardly cheerful, that he laughs easily and sometimes seems carefree, his real feelings run very deep.

She remembers how broken up he was when his dog, Ricky, died. But, like the real trooper he is, David didn't fall apart, not when there was work to be done, anyway. Instead, he poured his feelings into a special song, in honor of Ricky.

One thing that does bug David, according to Shirley, and that's all the crazy rumors that seem to surround everything he does. Not that she blames him for getting annoyed at being the target for rumors—who wouldn't?

"Like the time somebody started the rumor that he and Susan Dey were secretly married. Of course it was completely untrue, but still David figured that a certain number of people would believe it."

Even worse were those rumors that David and Shirley weren't getting along together. Nothing could have been farther from the truth. David likes and respects Shirley very much, both as his stepmother, and as a very talented lady. This particular rumor made him angry for Shirley's sake, as much as for his own.

But now, says Shirley, David has learned to take even the craziest rumors in his stride, because he knows that people who really understand him won't believe those rumors for long.

Take that silly rumor that keeps cropping up from time to time, the one that insists David and Bobby Sherman aren't getting along, that they were once rivals for the same girl, that they are jealous of each other's talents.

At first, this totally untrue rumor did bother David, not because there was anything true about it, but because he didn't like his fans to read such nonsense.

David and Bobby have never been rivals for any girl—in fact, neither of them is seriously involved with any particular girl, although, of course, they go out on dates.

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