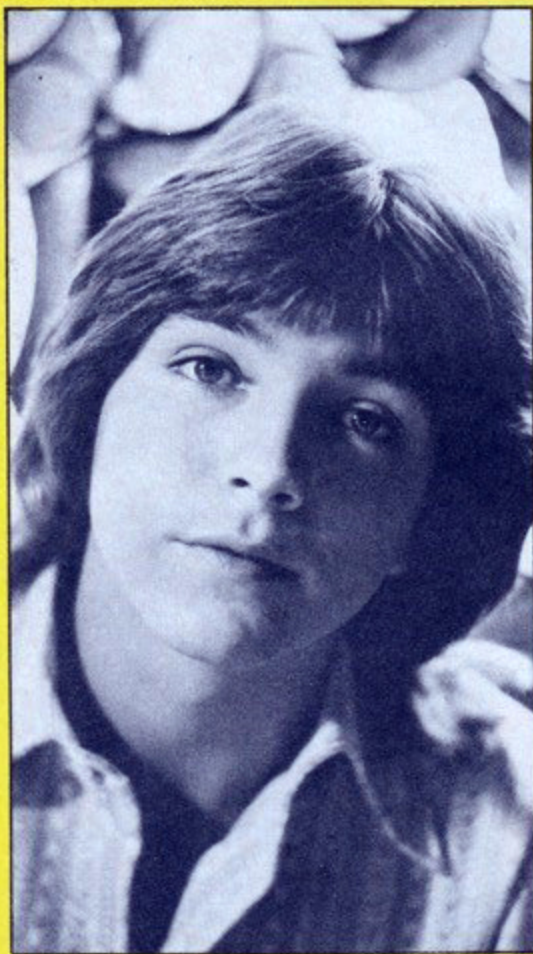


BETWEEN US!

I'd like to tell you about an interesting thing that happened to me the other day. I don't remember exactly what city I was in but it was during my recent tour.

I was in the restaurant of my hotel and a couple of girls came over to ask for autographs. I gave them the autographs and chatted with them for a few minutes until I noticed a young boy off to one side staring at me. He looked a little scared that I'd noticed him staring, but I smiled at him and he seemed to relax a little. Finally he got up the courage to walk over.



He offered his hand and introduced himself. He said he didn't want an autograph or anything like that. "I want to be a big, famous singer like you. You sure are lucky!" he said.

He went on. "You get to travel all over and meet all sorts of people and people pay money to see you and you must be a millionaire! Wow, you sure are lucky!"

Later when I was sitting alone in my room, I got to thinking about what he'd said and I realized that one thing he'd said was true—I am very lucky.

Oh I don't mean lucky in the way he probably meant. I mean lucky in non-material ways.

I laid back on the bed with my hands behind my head and I really thought about it. Like I have three parents whom I love very much. And I'm doing the things I love doing most in the world—singing and acting.

I have a couple of very close friends who are always totally honest with me—and who will always be there if I need them.

I have a lot of friends within the business—Susan and Danny and the rest of the Partridge cast, the crew and everyone else who works on the show, plus the people who help me record and tour.

And in addition to all that, I have so many fans who are friends in a very special way. I don't know each one of you personally, but I do feel we have a very close kind of

friendship and I'm very thankful for that.

It's hard to describe what it feels like to have fans—perhaps only someone else in my position can truly understand—but it's something very marvelous.

It would really be great if I could have more personal contact with each of you—like a day when we could all just sit down and talk to each other. But I guess this column has to sort of serve that purpose. It's sort of an open letter to all of you.

Anyway, as I was saying, I really am very lucky in so many ways.

I feel there is a great deal of love in my life—and I think that with that love I can do almost anything I truly put my mind to.

Sure there are some things about my life that bug me—the long hours for instance. But after I'd talked to that boy and he'd said how lucky I am, I really got to thinking about it. And when I really do think about it the marvelous things in my life far out weigh the not-so-marvelous things.

You know, I'm really glad that I met that boy. He made me sit back and think about the good things in my life. Yep, I'm really glad I met him. I hope there's someone like that in each of your lives to remind you of the good things in your life.

Love! David

BY DAVID CASSIDY
