

A Star Remembered

David Bruce Cassidy was an American actor, singer, songwriter, and guitarist. He was known for his role as Keith Partridge, the son of Shirley Partridge, in the 1970s musical-sitcom *The Partridge Family*, which led to his becoming one of popular culture's teen idols and superstar pop singers of the 1970s. He later had a career in both acting and music. He died at age 67, in November 2017, of liver failure.



Those are the bare facts, that scarcely do justice to the career of a man of immense talent, who brought pleasure to millions and stirred the teenage emotions of so many loyal fans.

This was a superstar who virtually closed Heathrow Airport on one of his many trips to the UK, such was the clamour of his adoring fans to get to be near, and see, their idol.



David Cassidy managed to stay at the top of his game for over four decades, with a unique ability to re-invent himself and adapt to numerous genres from concerts to theatre, television to Las Vegas, and even from actor/singer to producer/writer/director with a demographic that crossed three generations. After his rise to stardom in “*The Partridge Family*” he became the biggest TV and performing phenomenon in history by the time he was 20.

From television to recording and record-breaking concert tours, from Broadway and London's West End, to Las Vegas production shows, David Cassidy made his mark and was lauded with nominations and awards in each arena. He certainly proved that it is talent, creativity and tenacity that kept people coming to shows, turning on the television, and, in the day, buying his recordings.

It must not be forgotten that this was long before the era of instant celebrity and overnight success from talent discovery shows. Before the end of 1970, the year that “*The Partridge Family*” premiered, David had the No1 selling single of the year and record of the year, and received multiple Grammy nominations and won a Golden Apple Award. Over the next five years, membership in his official fan club exceeded that of Elvis Presley and the Beatles. He broke box office records at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, London's White City Stadium, Houston's Astrodome and New York's Madison Square Garden. His records have sold well over 30 million copies worldwide and have been recognised with over 24 gold and platinum recordings including four consecutive multi-platinum LP's.

Strange then that in the latter stages of his career, admittedly with a personal life that had some highs and lows, he failed to achieve the