

Jack In Love With First Wife

NEW YORK—Jack Cassidy's such a ribber, I didn't know whether he was serious when he said he's changed his life-style as a lover and isn't even looking at girls now, "because I'm still in love with Shirley" — meaning his divorced wife, Shirley Jones.

He's not discussing his son, David Cassidy, either. "I'm getting tired of everybody's kid being talented," he said. "Do you see him much?"



I asked. "No. His crowd doesn't even know me. I don't talk about him because the interviews with me turn out to be about him. Now I have another son, Shaun, 17. He's a singer and composer, and he has a hell of a chance to take off."

Cassidy's rehearsing with Janet Leigh for a Broadway show, "Murder Among Friends."

"Janet's got a great body," Jack said between rehearsals. "There's a lot of Shirley in Janet. They're both great girls."

One was moved to ask Cassidy about his free-wheeling independence before he and Shirley Jones divorced.

"Yes, I dated a lot while we were married, but Shirley dated a little bit, too," Jack said. "I'd say the breakup was my fault. We toured together. I had a nervous breakdown."

Thinking the talk was getting too serious, Jack said, "Our real trouble was Shirley wanted the parts I was getting." He mentioned that Shirley's seen with comedian Marty Ingels.

Jack talked like he was retiring from life.

"No, it's just that I haven't found anybody that swept me off my feet," he said. He's interested in doing a good show. "This show may win an Obie," he suggested. "I know that an

Obie is an off-Broadway award and this is supposed to be a Broadway show, but by the time I get through with it, it may be off-Broadway."

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