

JUGS AND DODGE FAMILY!

They soon began kissing and hugging. "I thought, OK, here I am. I'm actually kissing her now. And what's going to happen next is I'm going to start taking her clothes off, which is weird. Because even though Susan was not a blood relative, that was how I'd come to think of her."

"She came into the bedroom in her underwear and got on the bed, clearly ready for me to make my move."

But he still wasn't sure if he was interested.

"My sister here is attractive," he thought. "But do I really want to screw my sister?"

"Susan lacked the slutty aspect of a female I always found so attractive," he says. "She wasn't dirty. She wasn't nasty. She was good."

He begged off and went to sleep. In the morning, half-asleep, he gave in to eager Susan.

"We had a sort of semi-aborted sexual experience that I've tried to black out of my mind," he says.

"What occurred was a brief sexual encounter. And without my wanting it to happen, Susan felt rejected by me. We've never discussed it." In fact, he adds, the bedroom frolics spoiled their friendship, and they haven't talked at all since that day.

ACID TRIPS

Cassidy was heartbroken by his fling with Meredith Baxter. A few years older than he, she was newly divorced and living in Burbank with her two young children.

They met when Meredith made a guest appearance on *The Partridge Family*, found they liked each other and began dating.

"I really carried a serious torch for her," says Cassidy. "I never told anybody about it except Susan Dey and a couple of other friends. Meredith was a beautiful woman - warm, intelligent, independent, kind of a hippie at heart, like I was."

She was also much more mature than I was. I may have been 21 but emotionally I was still a teenager. The two kept out of the limelight by dating only in Meredith's house or Cassidy's. "Whenever I was with her, the time was great," he recalls. "I thought I might be in love with her."

The romance lasted about a month. The



Partridge producers hired Meredith to star in a new series with David Birney, and they clicked together off camera as well as on.

Meredith and I spent one final weekend together after they came involved, which I'm sure David Birney never knew about," he says. "Then Meredith broke off the relationship with me for good."

Cassidy says his drug use began when he was 15. The first time he tried LSD, recalls, he was driving his mother's car in Palm Springs. He enjoyed it and took acid nine more times.

By the time he was a senior in high school, he was ready to experiment with heroin. But once was enough, he says.

"I never used a needle. I just snorted it. I could see how you become a human wasteland very quickly and I wanted no part of it," he says.

HOMOSEXUAL LOVERS

During his pop star years, he found to his delight that flocks of women were following his tour from coast to coast. And they weren't collecting autographs.

"When some female comes up to your car with no bra on, a shirt open to her navel, showing off her chest and says, 'Hi,' you know what's going on," he says.

Cassidy denies having been driven to prove his masculinity in order to combat rumours he was gay. He's solidly hetero, he says.

Even so, his slight build and delicate features led many gays who found him attractive to assume he was one of them. "It was only when I was actually confronted by the situation - when I had a real opportunity to get into a sexual relationship with a friend who was homosexual and I declined his invitations and felt comfortable about that - that I realised, Hey, I'm not sitting on the fence. I'm really just not into it."

But he does say his actor dad, Jack Cassidy, was one of songwriter Cole Porter's homosexual lovers. "Being close to Porter could have helped my dad's career. My father was definitely guilty of doing whatever it would take to get ahead."

Cassidy thought the young Don Johnson was similarly ambitious. "Don was always gushingly friendly towards me, although I sometimes sensed under that friendliness a certain degree of

"Once I became really famous, virtually the only contact I had with humans was with women who'd wanted to have sex with me"

competitiveness. I viewed Don as an opportunist. He had a hustler spirit about him."

But there is rumoured to be an even juicier tell-all book in David Cassidy's past. He sat down with a journalist 10 years ago and recounted his experiences. More than 300 pages were written before the project was abandoned due to lack of publishers' interest. And those who have heard the tapes say: "It's so laced with sex and drugs it would make the most decadent rock star blush."