



No grandstand player, Marjorie (left) joins Gregg and Anne in ball game. Above, Mom teaches them how to care for their pet.



Marjorie dotes on TV family—Rusty Hamer (top), Danny Thomas, & Angela Cartwright.

was always cooing at me, and I hated it very much, so I didn't want to inflict it on my children."

Her divorce and Marjorie's instinctively independent spirit combined to shape her attitude toward child rearing. Her own family was united, and she led a normal, unpampered life. Nevertheless, she decided at 15 to go out on her own.

Marjorie started out studying ballet but met an actress who encouraged her to go into show business professionally. She easily won the first summer-stock role she tried out for. Marjorie's head was in the clouds—until she tried for her next job. "When I lost out on it," she says, "I came down to earth with a bang." Yet she went on to a number of Broadway and touring roles, and while playing in "The Male Animal" met and married actor John Archer.

Nowadays, Marjorie has a helping hand in raising Anne and Gregg: her parents live next door to her San Fernando Valley home and look after the children when she's at work. But Anne and Gregg still handle many of the household duties, even now that Marjorie can afford a full-time housekeeper. In fact, Marjorie recalls, "Recently when both her grandmother and I were ill,

Anne ran both houses beautifully."

Except for special chores, the children get no allowance for housework, because Marjorie doesn't think they should be paid for helping out in their own home.

Instead, the children are encouraged to be resourceful in earning money. Two years ago, Gregg needed some extra funds for Christmas, so he set up a stand in front of his home to sell mistletoe. That year he took in \$35, but the next year, when he tried again, it was raining so much that mistletoe sales didn't go so well.

But Gregg commented: "That's life."

Gregg and Anne are willing to work toward other ends, too. For instance, Marjorie wanted them to have the best possible schooling and guidance because she was away more than most mothers. Her solution was a private school, which put a severe strain on the family budget. When the children's grades didn't live up to her expectations, they had a heart-to-heart talk. Marjorie pointed out that going to a private school was a privilege they had to earn by getting good grades—or the extra expense would no longer be justified. The children promptly buckled down to work and became honor students; Gregg is also president of his class and captain of the school baseball team.

MARJORIE is convinced that children suffer only if their parents are unhappy. When their father visited them one day to announce his remarriage plans, Gregg and Anne were disturbed. After Archer left, Gregg cried out, "This is terrible!"

"Not at all," Marjorie replied. "I think it's wonderful that he's found someone who wants to take care of him and love him."

"The minute the children saw that I wasn't unhappy," Marjorie says, "their attitude changed. If anything, their relationship with their father improved greatly."

"I wouldn't want people to think I allow my children to run wild," Marjorie adds. "They get plenty of guidance from me, and we frequently talk things over. But whatever I say to them is designed to help them think for themselves, to stand on their own feet. And they do a wonderful job of it."



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