



Liz Gardner and Merv Griffin are shown on NBC program, "Play Your Hunch." She is closely related to the Rodwell family of Warren County.

## TV Personality Spent Much Time As Child With Kin In Warren County

Liz Gardner, famous TV personality, formerly appearing on the Jack Paar Show, and now currently appearing on NBC program, "Play Your Hunch," spent much time as a child with the family of the late Walter Rodwell of Oakville, father of Clyde E. Rodwell of Warrenton. She is the subject of a recent sketch by Earl Wilson in his syndicated column about show people. He says of Miss Gardner:

By EARL WILSON, NEW YORK — Gorgeous, red-haired Liz Gardner, a familiar face on "The Jack Paar Show" and now Merv Griffin's "Girl Friday" on "Play Your Hunch," used to spend her summers as a girl in Warrenton, N. C.—"And I've got an ax scar on my leg to prove it," she'll tell you.

Liz's mother's family is well known in the Warrenton area. "All the Rodwells and Gardners and Stewarts have lived around there for a long time," she explains.

"My mother's name was Anne Gardner, and her cousins, Clyde and Herman Rodwell, own property near Warrenton. I spent several summers on the farm of my late great-uncle, W. F. Rodwell. "Uncle Walter always told me to stay out of the woodshed—but I just couldn't stay away. And of course I ended up cutting myself with an ax."

**Pretty Girl Needed**  
Liz first appeared on "The Jack Paar Show" last spring, when Joey Bishop, who was substituting for Jack, needed a pretty girl to come on camera and remind him when

it was time for a commercial. "The gimmick was that I didn't say a word—just stroll by whenever a commercial was due," Liz says. "But the girl who was reading the commercials left by mistake before her last spot."

"So the producer threw a script into my hands and said, 'You're on.' When Joey looked up and saw his 'silent partner' doing the commercial, he flipped."

Liz did so well on the commercial that Joey used her later that week in a comedy sketch, and since then she's appeared frequently both with Joey and Jack.

Liz's father Adolph Blank, a well-known New York photographer whom her mother met on a visit here, and Liz grew up in New York and started working as a sales-

girl in the garment center. She made her way speedily "from the garment center to Rockefeller Center" after she decided in 1957 to try modeling.

**Starts Modeling**  
Picking an agency at random from the phone book, she began to get TV modeling jobs, which led to her show, "The Henry Morgan Show," and now on the popular daytime series, "Play Your Hunch."

Liz wants to become an actress, and is taking two classes a week. Her only acting role so far has been a brief bit in "77 Sunset Strip" episode, made when she was visiting Hollywood last summer.

She also devotes one night a week to working as a volunteer in a hospital. "You

get too wrapped up in yourself in TV work," she explains. "It's good to forget about yourself and do something for someone else every once in awhile."

This active schedule doesn't leave her much time for social life—much to the regret of many males. "You have to decide what things are most important to you, and sacrifice others," she sighs.

"So I don't go out much. I have plenty of fun, though, just being on 'Play Your Hunch'."

Vivacious Liz escorts contestants onstage and helps host Merv Griffin handle the various people, animals, and props involved in the stunts on the TV guessing game that premiered in December.

**Nomenclature**  
On the first day of summer school, the little boy was telling teacher about his new dog. "What kind of a dog is it?" asked the teacher.

"Well, he's a mixed-up kind," replied the small owner "Sort of a coker scandal."

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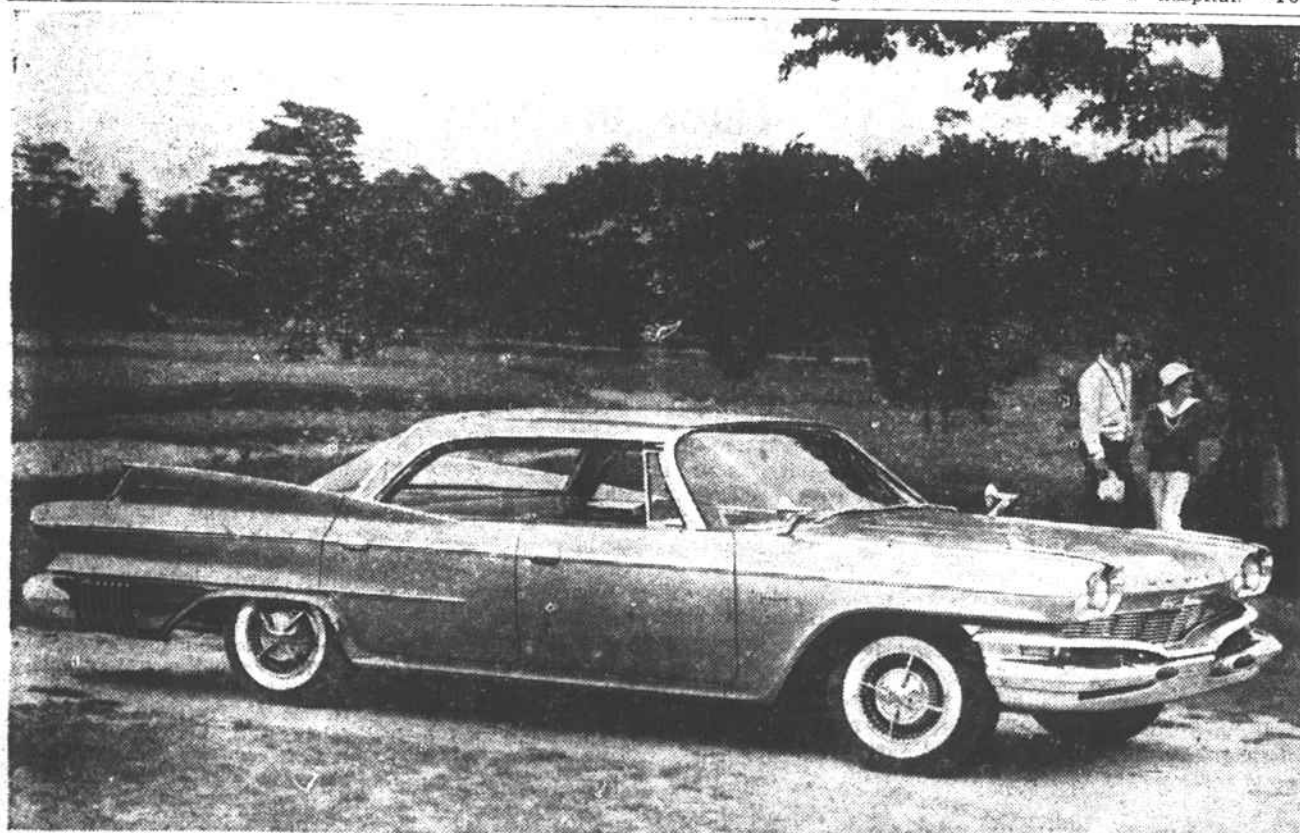
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