Southfield High grad salutes dad in one-woman show



There are many things that go into the makeup of a great dad. At the top of the the top of the list is warm-hearted mushy stuff like the ability to say the ideal words of

ANN consultations in ideal words of encouragement when we face a challenge. Great data have a tendency to teach the value of a dollar — then do without something they need so that their kids can have something they want. But there's another trait that shouldn't be overlooked in a prototype of a perfect dad. They're hilarious. It's dad-like to be at a gathering where there's a sea of words and opinions, and have a dad float in with a softly spoken, crisply delivered spray of irony

and clarity that ends the debate with a laugh. Many dads are always good for a chuckle because of the way they dreas or eat. We've all known great dads who send the message that "image... means nothing."

In her new one-woman show, "Get to the Part About Me, scheduled June 17-20 at Meadow Brook Theatre, Rose Abdoo offers a comical and loving tribute to her dad, whose behavior may sound familiar.

"My dad loved to snack. Everything he liked was considered a snack... even a cold cut sandwich. Here's what he'd pull on you. "You know, there's some Rice Crispy treats in the kitchen if you're here, why don't you bring me one," Abdoo says.

A 1980 graduate of Southfield High School, Abdoo's erreer in comedy has included a four-year stint with Second City — Chicago, appearances in the films "My

comedy has included a tour-year stint with Second City — Chica-go, appearances in the films "My

Best Friend's Wedding" and "U.S. Marshals," and the recent HBO/U.S. Comedy Arts Festival

HBO/U.S. Comedy Arts Pestival Special.

She's eager to come home to perform for many reasons, but one in particular. It's Father's Day, and one of her favorite things about her new show is when she gets to the part about her dad, who died in 1988.

"I've developed an imitation of dad that I use in the show, and my family and friends say it's identical. My dad's memories of World War II are especially funny and emotional."

Why does she deal with so many actual experiences in "Get to the Part About Me?"

"When I first started doing comedy. I used to worry that my experiences were too specific and that no one else would find them funny. But I quickly discovered that the more specific you get, the more universal you are. People laugh because something

very similar has happened to them," Abdoo says. There's one other bit of advice that has guided her career. "Find the people you

There's one other bit of advice that has guided her carreer.

"Find the people you admire, and try to do what they did. I was a big fan of Gilda Radner, and used to love to watch her on Saturday Night Live. She had come out of Second City and that was the reason I wanted to join the cast in Chicago.

Gilda's characters were hilarious and unforgettable, and inspired me to develop characters in my act."

In addition to the Meadow Brook Theatre shows, you can catch her on the next edition of BACKSTAGE PASS, airing 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 17, and at midnight Friday, June 18, on Detroit Public TV.

Your dad will be anoring in his easy chair, and as you grab the remote and switch to Channel 56, he'll ferk awake and claim he

Zone episode. He said he received an e-mail six weeks ago from a fan who has the pictures

Day.

Rose Abdoo will present her one-woman show, "Get to the Part

was watching his favorite show.
Caught you, dad. "Gunsmoke"
has been off the air for a few
years now.
Thought I would close with
classic "dadism." Happy Father's
Day.
Rose Abdoo will present her
one-woman show, "Get to the Part

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McCarthy from page E1 M Kevin McCarthy is well wired and makes con-

a year to about a dozen. But that doesn't mean he's not always busy.

He's a contributor and "co-editor" ("I didn't really edit anything but they needed my name") of a new book now at book stores, "They're Hore... Invasion of the Body Snatchers. A Tribute," (Berkley Boulevard, Si3 paperback).

The cult classic "Invasion of the Body Snatchers," is considered by many to be one of the best science fiction movies of all time. McCarthy starred as Dr. Miles Bennell, who begins to notice his neighbors are acting strange.

The film has been remade

Strange.

The film has been remade twice, but neither version has replaced director Don Siegel's original. It is the subject of online discussions, conventions and now the book which includes an introduction by Dean Koonte (These immigrants don't need no stinkin' green card') and essays by Stephen King and others exploring every aspect of Jack Finney's original novel and the three films made from it.

tacts with many fans through cyberspace.

"They're Here..." concludes with a long, rambling and engaging interview with McCarthy. The interview with McCarthy. The interview with McCarthy. The interview overse everything from the death of his parents when he was 4 during the influenza epidemic to his casual entry into acting and his role as a founding member of the Actors' Studio. McCarthy, of course, has had a long and successful career as leading man and character actor. McCarthy's late sister, Mary, was the noted author of The Group' and other books.
"Ed Gorman started the book,

"The Group" and other books.
"Ed Gorman started the book, he's a huge fan of the the picture," McGarthy said." At some point we got to know each other by e-mail. That picture is one of the greatest pictures ever made."

McCarthy sought, out his costar in the film Dana Wynter and discovered she was living in Ireland.

"She's such a lady, divinely genteel. I called her and left a

message, Becky, this is Miles. Wake up. I got a transatlantic call back. Since then we've become great buddies. ... She's the most vital 69-year-old lady," he said he said.

me most vital 69-year-old lady," he said.

In an interview with Wynter in the book, she has similar praise for McCarthy, "You feel there's not shadow on Kevin; he doean't speak hadly of people, he's full of praise, he's full of enthusiasm, you feel that he's decent through and through."

Together they made the circuit of "Body Snatcher" events.

McCarthy was also the star of another cult favorite, the Twi Hight Zone episode, "Long Live Walter Jameson," in which he played a man who had been alive for centuries.

McCarthy said he has memen-

McCarthy said he has memen-tos from his many movies, espe-cially "Body Snatchers," but he had nothing on the Twilight

from a fan who has the pictures he wants.

McCarthy is well wired and makes contacts with many fans through cyberspace.

McCarthy made his screen debut playing Biff Loman in the film adaptation of 'Death of a Salemann' with Fredric March. He had appeared in the first London production of Arthur Miller's play with Faul Muni under the direction of Elia Kazan, He won an Oscar nomination for his acreen performance, though in the book he says he has reservations about the movie.

He is, also, not impressed with the new Broadway production starring Brian Dennehy.

starring Brian Dennehy.

"It wasn't for me, I didn't care for it," he said. 'Many actors I've talked to feel the same way. He's a powerful actor, but I wish I could have directed him."

McCarthy and his wife, Kate, will perform this summer at the Galway Arts Featival in A.R. Gurney's "Love Letters."



