

"He took me out to my first sushi dinner!" she exclaims.

Partridge and husband Gary Stein, who now produces much of her music, still receive a Christmas card from Cruise each year.

Eventually, however, Partridge's career would take a turn while in L.A. After her spontaneous karaoke session, Partridge was approached by a booking agent and asked if she was a professional jazz artist. Partridge recalls being surprised by this inquiry. Yet his next question was what really started the ball rolling - would she then like to become a professional jazz singer?

After juggling acting and singing for quite some time, Partridge realized that music was taking over. Luckily, she felt more in control of her career as a jazz artist; working in such a small market yields incredible capabilities to find work and still be creative. This is when "the tide turned," as Partridge explains. Her career as a jazz singer was about to take off.

Partridge has since released three CDs - "I'll Be Easy to Find," "Blame It on My Youth" and "You Are There: Songs for My Father." With every CD, Partridge feels as though she becomes more relaxed and confident with her sense of style. She also is given the freedom to experiment and try new things.

This past July 4, Partridge was named a Breakout Artist by the television show "Good Morning, America," and she was also given the opportunity to perform on-air. The show "went by too quickly," Partridge explains. "Everyone who works there is great."

Additionally, Partridge has a long-term engagement at The Oak Room at The Algonquin Hotel in New York City. She has really enjoyed performing here because of the history.

"So many places don't have the right ingredients," Partridge explains.

However, The Oak Room's intimate and beautiful decor "makes for a great show," Partridge reveals.

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, Partridge will return to Massachusetts to perform at Sculler's Jazz Club in Boston. That morning, she'll also perform on the Fox-25 morning show.

"I'm kind of hoping some people I know from my past might turn up," Partridge admits.

Regardless, she is anxiously awaiting her first Boston performance. There doesn't appear to be any real reason for her to worry; although a latecomer to the music industry, Partridge seems nothing less than a pro.