Credits (premier): director, Will Mackenzie; writers, Earl Pomeranz, Richard Okie.

Cast: Gerald McRaney, Shanna Reed, Matt Mulhern.

Summary: Comedy series set in contemporary California. Major John MacGillis (McRaney) is a conservative, by-the-book, die-hard Marine. The premier episode includes a soliloquy by the Major on his Vietnam service and how he believed the Corps was the only family he needed. Then he meets Polly Cooper (Reed) a pacifistic, liberal journalist. When the two meet, there is instant and intense chemistry and they get married less than 24 hours later. Now Polly (and her three daughters from a previous marriage) have to learn how to deal with being a Marine family, while Major MacGillis has to learn how to be a Dad.


Brennan, Patricia. “Shanna Reed: Major mom did her homework: In her personal and TV life, it’s sempersomething” Washington post (Nov 19, 1989), TV Tab, p. 9.


Dempsey, John (see under Benson, Jim)


McDougal, Dennis. “Sitcom caught in conflict: The war in the Gulf is dictating changes to ‘Major Dad’” Los Angeles times (Feb 1, 1991), Calendar, p. 1.
