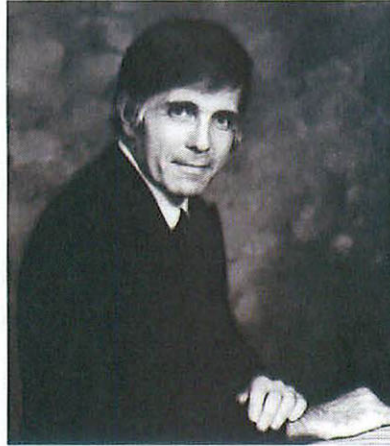


• In Memoriam

John O. Crites (1928-2007)



John Orr Crites, one of the leading vocational psychologists of the 20th century, succumbed to pneumonia on March 15, 2007. With his passing, counseling psychology lost an exemplar of its scientist-practitioner model. Jack's scholarly contributions and leadership substantially advanced vocational psychology both as a distinct discipline in applied psychology and as a substratum for the profession of counseling psychology.

In 1950 Jack graduated magna cum laude from Princeton as a history major. He then joined the Air Force, serving for 2 years as Chief of Career Guidance at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. When Jack returned home to New York City, his occupational choice was at issue. Jack asked a professor who taught personnel psychology for guidance, and guide him he did. As they talked, Albert Thompson (Division 17 President 1962-1963) learned of Jack's military experience and invited Jack to enroll in his 2-year certificate program in personnel psychology. In due course, Jack met Al's close friend Donald Super (Division 17 President 1951-1952). Don became Jack's doctoral sponsor, mentor, and lifelong friend. While completing his doctoral studies at Teachers College, Jack served as a staff member on Super's monumental Career Pattern Study, authoring with Don in 1957 a book entitled *Vocational Development: A Framework for Research*.

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After graduating in June 1957, Jack became a counseling psychologist and lecturer in educational psychology at the University of Texas. While at Texas, Jack and Don began work on the second edition of *Appraising Vocational Fitness*, which appeared in 1962. Originally published by Super in 1949, this book in its two editions stood as the definitive textbook on career assessment for 25 years and continues to be well worth reading today.

After 1 year at Texas, Jack moved to the University of Iowa as senior counselor and assistant professor of psychology. Jack's years at Iowa (1958-1971) were highly productive. He published 38 book chapters and journal articles. He served as coeditor (1961-1972) of the Test Review section in the *Journal of Counseling Psychology*. In 1963 the American Board of Professional Psychology named him a diplomate in counseling psychology, and in 1967 he attained the rank of professor. From 1963 to 1971, he headed the graduate training program in counseling psychology while directing the University Counseling Service (1964-1971).

Jack's research program at Iowa concentrated on the measurement of vocational maturity. In 1965, he published the first paper-and-pencil measure of career choice readiness, then called the Vocational Development Inventory, and since 1973 called the Career Maturity Inventory. As a measure of attitudes toward the career choice process, the Career Maturity Inventory was widely used during the heyday of the career education movement and has appeared in more than 400 published research studies. In 1969, Jack published his masterwork: *Vocational Psychology: The Study of Vocational Behavior and Its Development*. A sabbatical year (1966-1967) at the Harvard University Center for Research in Careers with David Tiedeman (Division 17 President 1965-1966) and Ann Roe had accelerated Jack's work on his decade-long project to further define and codify vocational psychology as a field of scientific inquiry. In addition to presenting a critical analysis and integration of the literature, the book clearly differentiated vocational psychology as a discipline in applied psychology from the profession of career counseling.

In 1971, Jack moved to the University of Maryland as a professor of psychology. This move coincided with his 2-year presidency of Division 17 (1971 to 1973), the first year as president pro tempore, when the elected president was unable to fill the position, and the next year as president. During his decade at Maryland, Jack lectured widely on the use of the Career Maturity Inventory. His scholarly interest turned from vocational psychology to career counseling. In 1981, he published his fourth book, entitled *Career Counseling: Models, Methods, and Materials*. He continued to publish articles and book chapters at a high rate and spent the academic year 1977-1978 on sabbatical as a Visiting Scholar at the Institute for Personality Assessment and Research at the University of California, Berkeley.

Jack devoted the final decade of his professional life to program building and mentoring. In 1981, he moved to Kent State University, where he was recruited to form the Career Research and Development Laboratory. Appointed as a Research Professor, Jack's main role was to mentor assistant professors in the research process. Collaborating with Louise Fitzgerald and Sandra Shulman, he established an APA-approved counseling psychology program at Kent State. Having achieved the goals he set for himself at Kent State, Jack in 1985 moved to Northwestern University with the goal of securing APA accreditation for its counseling psychology program, which he did before he retired to Boulder, Colorado in 1989.

Jack's final professional presentation occurred at the 1997 conference of the Society for Vocational Psychology. That 1997 lecture on the four types of interest assessment, along with his 1995 presentation at the APA symposium memorializing Donald Super, may be heard on <http://www.vocopher.com/JohnCrites.cfm>. To the end, "J.O.C.," as he liked to sign his letters, appreciated the help that he received from his mentors and valued the fellowship he found in Division 17. The science of vocational psychology and the profession of counseling, in return, have benefited from his scholarship, instruction, and leadership. *Fama semper vivat.*

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