Innovation in Geropsychology and Long-Term Care Settings: Honoring Dr. Victor Molinari's Legacy

Thanks to

APA Division 20

Background

- Victor Molinari made monumental contributions to the field of Geropsychology
- He was also widely acknowledged as a kind and generous colleague, mentor, and friend
- His death in November 2024 is both a great loss, and a time to reflect on his many accomplishments and lessons for us all

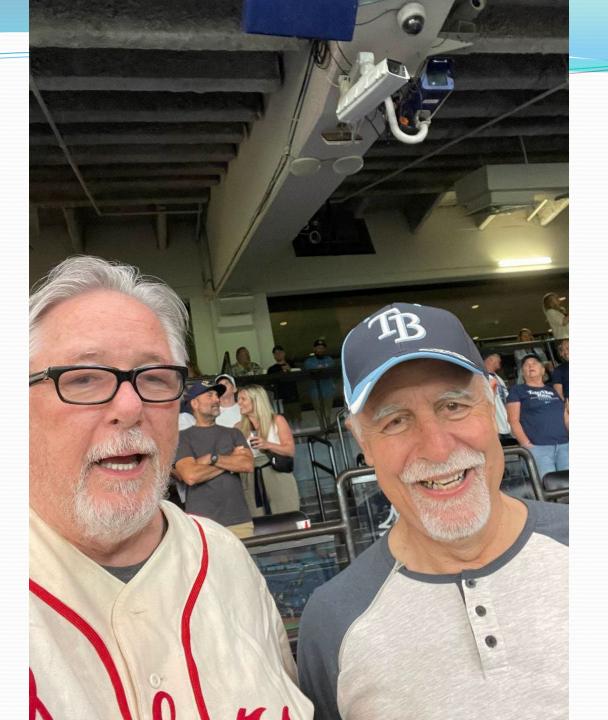
Presenters

- William E. Haley, "Victor Molinari: Clinician, Scholar, Mentor, Teacher, and Leader"
- Debra Dobbs, "Victor Molinari's Advancements in the Field of Long-Term Care and Nursing Home Quality"
- Lisa Lind, "Dr. Molinari's Significant Impact on Geropsychologists and Service Provision in LTC Settings"
- Latrice Vinson, "How Did We Get Here? Tracing Victor Molinari's Legacy in the Growth of the Field of Geropsychology"
- Up to 10 minutes each
- Cindy Mason, Victor's wife
- Plentiful time for comments from the attendees

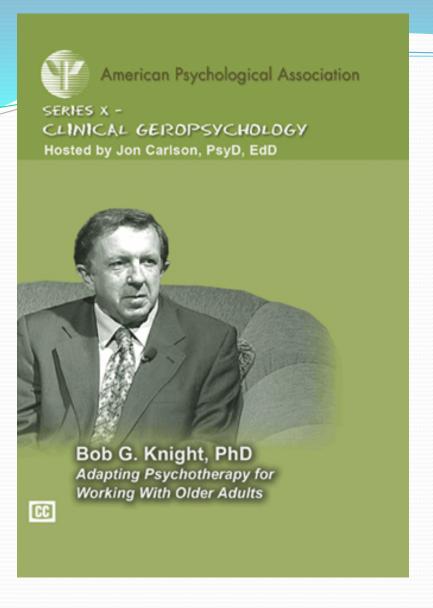
Personal Reflections

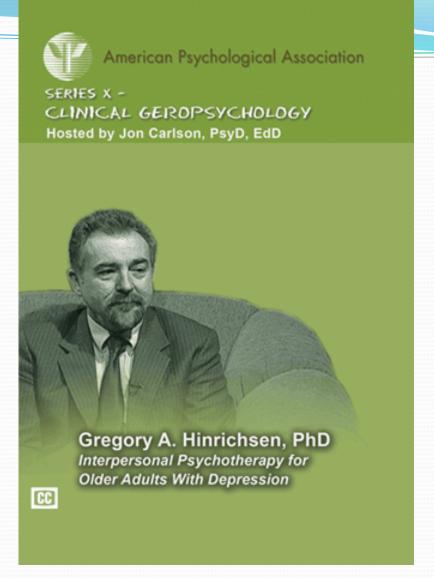
- I knew Victor for decades
- He was always positive and supportive
- I never saw him overwhelmed, stressed, or angry
- A remarkable journal reviewer
- Columbus Day parties
- Adventurous and loved to explore
- Loved baseball and hot dogs
- An amazing collaborator
- A very happily married man

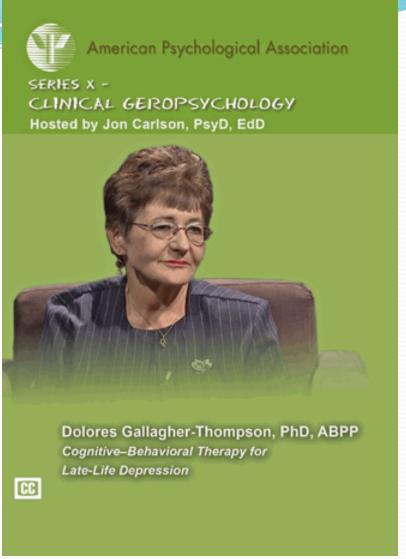




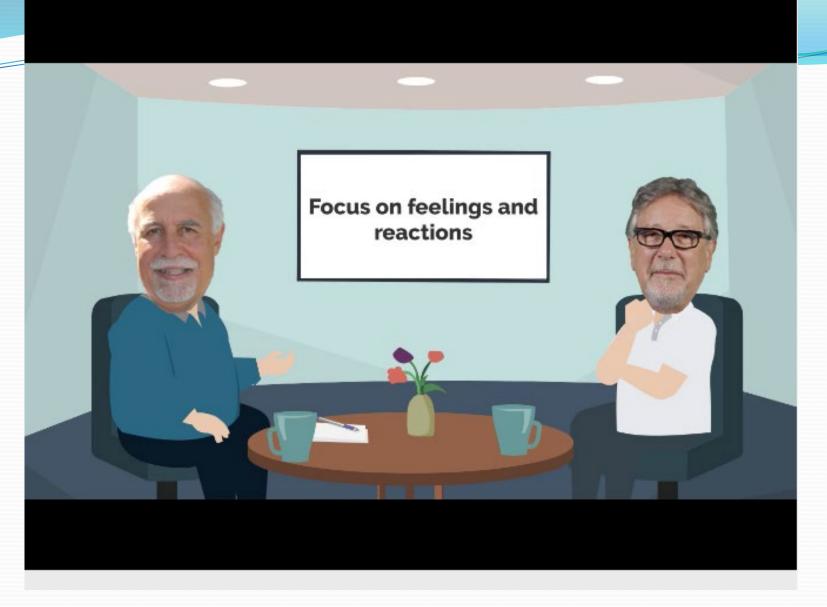
September 22, 2024—The last home game of the 2024 Rays home season—and unless it is rebuilt, the last game to be played at Tropicana Field.







We collaborated in developing an online graduate course in Gerontological Counseling, which included assignments for students to watch a number of APA psychotherapy videos.



Students watched 15 minute clips at a time of the counseling sessions, and then heard commentary from Victor and me on these segments. Victor was a masterful clinician and clinical instructor.

Timeline

- 1979 PhD, Memphis State University (University of Memphis)
- 1979-1981 Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences Gerontology Center
- 1981-1985 Mid-City Mental Health and Retardation Center/TRIMS
- 1985-2002 Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Houston, Texas
- 2002-2023 Professor University of South Florida, Aging & Mental Health, School of Aging Studies

Psychology and Geropsychology Awards

- ABPP Clinical Psychology (2001), Geropsychology (2014)
- APA Division 20 John Santos Distnguished Program Development in Clinical Gerontology Award
- APA Committee on Aging CONA Award for the Advancement of Psychology and Aging
- Psychologists in Long Term Care Award for Outstanding contributions to Psychology in Long Term Care
- Society for Clinical Geropsychology M. Powell Lawton Award for Distinguished Contributions to Clinical Geropsychology

Teaching and Mentorship

- Chaired or co-chaired 12 dissertation committees
- Member of 24 dissertation committees
- Routinely received stellar student evaluations of his courses in Gerontological Counseling, Case Management, and others
- Sue V. Saxon Outstanding Teaching Award in the Field of Gerontology
- APA Division 20 Mentoring Award

Research—Widely Cited Papers

- 2000-Functional impairment in COPD patients: The impact of anxiety and depression (Psychosomatics)
- 2001—One session cognitive behavioral therapy for elderly patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Psychological Medicine)
- 1998—What practitioners should know about working with older adults (Professional Psychology: Research and Practice)
- 1985—Life review reminiscence in the elderly: A review of the literature (International Journal of Human Development)

Final Comments

- "Victor Molinari: Clinician, Scholar, Mentor, Teacher, and Leader"
- And friend...