ANTHONY J. SUTICH: AN APPRECIATION

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Anthony J. Sutich, the founding editor of this Journal, died peacefully at his home, early Saturday morning, April 10. "Tony Sutich," as he was known to those of us close to him, was a remarkable man. An accident in a baseball game at age 12 led to progressive rheumatoid arthritis, and by age 18 he was totally disabled physically. His formal education was cut off at the ninth grade. For his remaining 50 years he was confined to a gurney, unable to move. Advised in 1925 that he had only a few months to live, he discovered, in the hospital, that the nursing staff frequently stopped to talk with him, discussing their personal problems and seeking his advice. This phenomenon continued out of the hospital for the next 13 years, until 1938, when he was formally asked to become a group counselor for the Palo Alto Society for the Blind. By 1941 he had established a reputation as an individual and group counselor and entered into full-time private practice.

During this same period he read voraciously, and met many writers, professors, psychologists, and other professionals and intellectuals from many areas of interest. A rich and stimulating series of contacts led him to become involved in the labor movement, political action, social legislation, and anti-Nazi activity as a Serbo-Croatian translator for the State Department in World War II.

In the war and post-war years his counseling practice became more psychological and he began developing a 'growth' and 'values' orientation in his work with clients. In later years he became a certified and licensed psychologist. At the urging of a client he initiated contact with Abraham H. Maslow in 1949 and an immediate lifelong friendship was formed. It was Maslow's encouragement that led Tony Sutich to publish "The
growth-experience and the growth-centered attitude" (1949). The bond with Maslow was deep and at Tony's instigation, they founded the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology* in 1958 and subsequently brought about the publication of that *Journal* in 1961, as well as the launching of the Association for Humanistic Psychology in the same year.

In 1966 a recurring interest in mysticism and Eastern philosophies re-emerged in Tony Sutich's life. This led to his founding of the *Journal of Transpersonal Psychology* in 1968. Although he was faced with severe physical and financial limitations, the assistance of a few contributors and many dedicated volunteers made it possible for Tony Sutich to publish *JTP*, and organize the Transpersonal Institute, in 1969.

With characteristic energy and foresight, he decided to write a documented account of his involvement in humanistic and transpersonal psychology. In June 1974 he formally began the necessary research for this project and contracted to write a dissertation on the subject as part of the requirements for a doctoral program in psychology at the Humanistic Psychology Institute of San Francisco. He brought this project to a successful conclusion when he completed his dissertation, "The Founding of Humanistic and Transpersonal Psychology: A Personal Account." He received his doctoral degree April 9, one day before he died.

It is very difficult to adequately characterize or describe this remarkable man. Nevertheless, it is necessary to recognize that thousands of individuals and many institutions have been influenced, directly or indirectly, by the efforts of this unusual human being. Tony Sutich's contribution is, among other things, an example of the value of what is humanistic, personal, and transpersonal in our lives.

**ANTHONY J. SUTICH: A BIBLIOGRAPHY**


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