

## **2023 Honorary Membership Recipient**

### **James W. Carney Acceptance Speech**

First of all, I would like to say that it is a tremendous privilege to be here. Thank you to AANA and, of course, a huge thank you to all of my good friends with the Iowa Association of Nurse Anesthetists, specifically Susan Pair, Rich Jacobson, Mindy Miller Gingery, and Mike Anderson. When you work with a group for about 45 years, you get to know people as they progress through their careers as well as the life that we all experience. It has been wonderful to watch my friends come into the practice, serve their patients, and serve their state, get married and have children.

We have been fortunate in Iowa to have IANA members who have not been afraid of becoming involved in the political process. They have rolled up their sleeves and worked with public officials to obtain what we believe to be the best practice rights and practice environment for CRNAs in the country. It has been a privilege to work with so many people over the years who have paid their dues time and time again by working to make their profession better.

I could talk a long time about what it takes to be successful in the legislative arena but one thing I can say for certain is that it takes a lot of time, energy, effort, and dedication. I have witnessed such efforts firsthand in Iowa with the IANA members. They have always been so kind and thoughtful to compliment me for my work and to give me credit for what has happened, but the truth of the matter is that it is their hard work which has made me look good and why I am standing here before you tonight. Thank you IANA, thank you AANA for such a wonderful privilege.