

## **2023 Honorary Membership Recipient**

### **Mary Scheuermann, MNA, CNP, CAE Acceptance Speech**

I would like to begin by thanking the FY23 Board of Directors for this presentation of an honorary AANA membership. It was an incredibly unexpected and kind action, and I deeply appreciate it.

I started my association career at AANA in the mid-90s. I want to thank my colleague Luis Rivera for hiring me. I'm very grateful for that day as it opened up a whole new life path for me. I grew up in Park Ridge, where AANA used to be located, but had never heard of nurse anesthetists until I came to work there.

Last month I started working with my 30<sup>th</sup> AANA Board during their orientation! I have witnessed the hard work that the Boards have done throughout the years and watched the joy of members getting together at meetings to learn about, and celebrate, their profession. Your love for your profession and dedication to patients has been so inspiring to watch.

I also want to pay tribute to my AANA staff colleagues, both current and past. AANA staff have a very unique dedication to their work and I am privileged to work beside them.

Finally, a special thanks to my husband and sons. In their younger years, they attended multiple Annual Congress's and really enjoyed the new cities and nice hotels that they were able to experience.....while I worked. I'm glad that my work gave them a chance to experience places they would not typically have seen. Thank you again for this lovely honor.