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Six Registered Nurses to Be Inducted into ANA Hall of Fame
For Lifetime of Contributions to Nursing

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association will induct six registered nurses into its Hall of Fame June 16 at its biennial House of Delegates meeting, an honor recognizing a lifelong commitment to nursing and impact on health and/or social history of the United States.

ANA established the nursing Hall of Fame in 1976, inducting 15 charter members. Since then, 83 nurses total have been inducted, including the six this year. Inductions occur every two years at the ANA House of Delegates meeting. The 2012 ANA Hall of Fame inductees are RADM Faye Glenn Abdellah; Josephine A. Dolan; Eleanor C. Lambertsen; Captain Mary Lee Mills; Margaret D. Sovie; and Russell E. Tranbarger.

“The ANA Hall of Fame represents the pioneers, innovators and leaders of the nursing profession,” said ANA President Karen A. Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN. “They are trailblazers whose commitment and pursuit of excellence have created opportunities for future generations and expanded the knowledge base for all registered nurses.”

These are some of the Hall of Fame inductees’ noteworthy achievements:

- **RADM Faye Glenn Abdellah, (Ret.), United States Public Health Service (USPHS), EdD, ScD, RN, FAAN, Maryland Nurses Association**

  Named a “living legend” by the American Academy of Nursing in 1994, Rear Admiral Faye G. Abdellah is regarded as an influential nursing theorist and public health scientist. Her seminal works, “Better Nursing Care Through Nursing Research” and “Patient Centered Approaches To Nursing,” changed the focus of nursing theory from disease-centered to patient-centered.

  Abdellah was the first nurse and woman to serve as Deputy Surgeon General of the United States. She worked to protect the elderly by improving nursing home standards. She educated the MORE…
public on issues such as AIDS, drug addiction, violence, smoking, and alcoholism.

After retiring from the United States Public Health Service in 1989, Abdellah served as the first dean of the Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University (MD).

In 2000, Abdellah was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. In 2002, she retired with more than 50 years of government service.

- **Josephine A. Dolan, MS, RN, PdD (Hon.), DNSc (Hon.), Connecticut Nurses Association**

  Known as a nurse historian and educator, Josephine A. Dolan’s textbook on the history of nursing, "Nursing in Society: a Historical Perspective," was the most widely used text of its kind for 25 years, influencing students nationally and internationally. Dolan, who died in 2004, earned a master’s in nursing from Boston University. She was the first professor hired by the University of Connecticut’s new School of Nursing in 1944, teaching for 35 years. She encouraged students to pursue higher education and advocated for the professionalism of nursing. She helped transform nursing from a hospital-based training to an academic-based education. Dolan received the National League for Nursing’s first Distinguished Service Award in 1972.

- **Eleanor C. Lambertsen, EdD, RN, DSc (Hon.), New York State Nurses Association**

  A leader in nursing education, Lambertsen, who died in 1998, pioneered the concept of “team nursing,” which revolutionized the organization and delivery of nursing and health care by placing registered nurses in the primary interdisciplinary leadership role.

  Upon completion of her doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University, and serving as a faculty member, she attained leadership positions at the American Hospital Association. She later returned to Teachers College as the Nursing Department chair and director of the Division of Health Sciences. In 1970, she became dean of the Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing and in 1974, senior associate director of Nursing.

  Lambertsen is credited with enabling generations of clinical nurse specialists and nurse practitioners to practice independently. She served as president of the American Nurses Foundation and chaired the National Commission for the Study of Nursing and Education.

- **Captain Mary Lee Mills, (Ret.), USPHS, MSN, MPH, RN, CNM, North Carolina Nurses Association**

  Captain Mills overcame racial, gender, and class barriers to improve public health and nursing, improving the quality of life for people globally. Her trailblazing career transported her from a small town in North Carolina to the international stage as a nurse ambassador.

  Initially she practiced as a public health nurse and a nurse mid-wife. In 1946, she became director of the public health nursing certificate program at North Carolina College (now North Carolina Central University). She became an officer in the United States Public Health Service (USPHS), rising to captain. She also served as its chief nursing officer from 1946 to 1952.

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Mills contributed to public health initiatives internationally. Liberia vested Mills as Knight Official of the Liberian Humane Order of the Redemption for health initiatives. Lebanon bestowed the Order of the Cedars for her role in establishing the first School of Nursing.

Mills’ portrait is featured with thirty-three distinguished African Americans in the Harmon Collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Mills died in 2010 at 98.

- **Margaret D. Sovie, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, New York State Nurses Association**

  Sovie’s seminal work in nursing excellence changed how health care facilities support professional nursing practice. In a landmark study for the 1983 American Academy of Nursing’s Task Force on Nursing Practice in Hospitals, Sovie and colleagues identified the characteristics of facilities that attracted and retained superior nurses. Defining fourteen “Forces of Magnetism,” they established the framework for nursing excellence. The Magnet Recognition Program, the American Nurses Credentialing Center program that measures nursing excellence, evolved from Sovie’s study.

  Sovie, who died in 2002, is recognized as a nurse educator, administrator, researcher, innovator, and policy maker. Sovie, who held advanced degrees from Syracuse University, led two academic hospitals as Chief Nursing Officer: the University of Rochester’s Strong Memorial Hospital and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The Margaret D. Sovie Center for Advanced Practice at Strong Memorial honors her legacy as an advocate for nurse practitioners.

- **Russell E. Tranbarger, EdD, RN, FAAN, North Carolina Nurses Association**

  A role model for men in nursing, Tranbarger has been an advocate for diversity in the profession. He’s been a leader for the American Assembly for Men in Nursing and co-edited the book, “Men in Nursing: History, Opportunities and Challenges.” He was the first male president of the North Carolina Nurses Association and chair of the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

  Tranbarger’s 50-year career began in medical-surgical nursing as an officer in the Army Nurse Corps. Later, he served for 20 years as a chief nurse executive at three hospitals in North Carolina. In 1972 he was appointed the first male registered nurse on the University of North Carolina School of Nursing faculty (adjunct). He led a period of change in practice as vice president for nursing at the Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro from 1977 to 1989, implementing innovative nurse internship and residency programs.

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*ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent and state nurses associations and its organizational affiliates. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*