

ANA'S 2010 HALL OF FAME & HONORARY AWARDS PROGRAM

"A CELEBRATION OF NURSING" *Honoring Nursing's Best*

Hall of Fame Award

this prestigious award recognizes an individual's lifelong commitment to the field of nursing and its impact on the health and/or social history of the U.S.

John Devereaux Thompson, MS, RN

Connecticut Nurses Association

Born in 1917, John Devereaux Thompson was a 1939 graduate of the Bellevue Hospital Mills School of Nursing for Men. As an extraordinary nurse, educator, pioneer and researcher, he dedicated his professional service to improving the quality and operational management of hospitals.

As one of the principal investigators in the Yale University research that became Diagnostic Related Groups or DRGs, he influenced the restructuring of Medicare reimbursement and patient quality outcomes. His work in this area and the measurement of nursing intensity helped to create data systems that continue to contribute to contemporary initiatives in patient safety and quality such as the American Nurses Association's National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators®. Today, in our evidence-based practice environment, Mr. Thompson was way ahead of the curve with his mantra, "Let the data lead you."

Mr. Thompson's interest in hospital architecture and planning led him to his own design studio and to international consultation, creating hospital wards that would work well for nurses and for patients. His book, *"The Hospital: A Social and Architectural History,"* written with Grace Goldin and published in 1975, is considered a classic set of studies interweaving architectural and social history in depicting the hospital as a constellation of concrete responses to social needs.

The professional life of Mr. Thompson contributed to the understanding of hospital operations and significantly influenced public policy. In the words of one of his nominators, "At this time in our history when we all look forward to health care reforms and affordable health care for all citizens, it seems right and proper that nursing takes a moment to honor one of our own who pioneered the tools we now use in this quest for equality of opportunity."

