
■ ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

The 45-cent Harvey Cushing Stamp



Anesthesiologists hail Harvey Cushing, M.D. (1869–1939), for popularizing intraoperative anesthetic records, sphygmomanometry, and precordial auscultation. Himself a world-class illustrator as well as neurosurgeon, Cushing was portrayed with charcoal by John Singer Sargent in 1916, a full 72 yr before the 1988 first-day issue of that portrait on a 45-cent stamp by the U.S. Postal Service. That release frustrated efforts to honor dentist-anesthetist Horace Wells but certainly pleased U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who had unveiled the stamp on Cushing's birthday in 1987 at the White House Rose Garden before the adopted daughter of Cushing's neurosurgical disciple Loyal Davis—First Lady Nancy Davis Reagan. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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