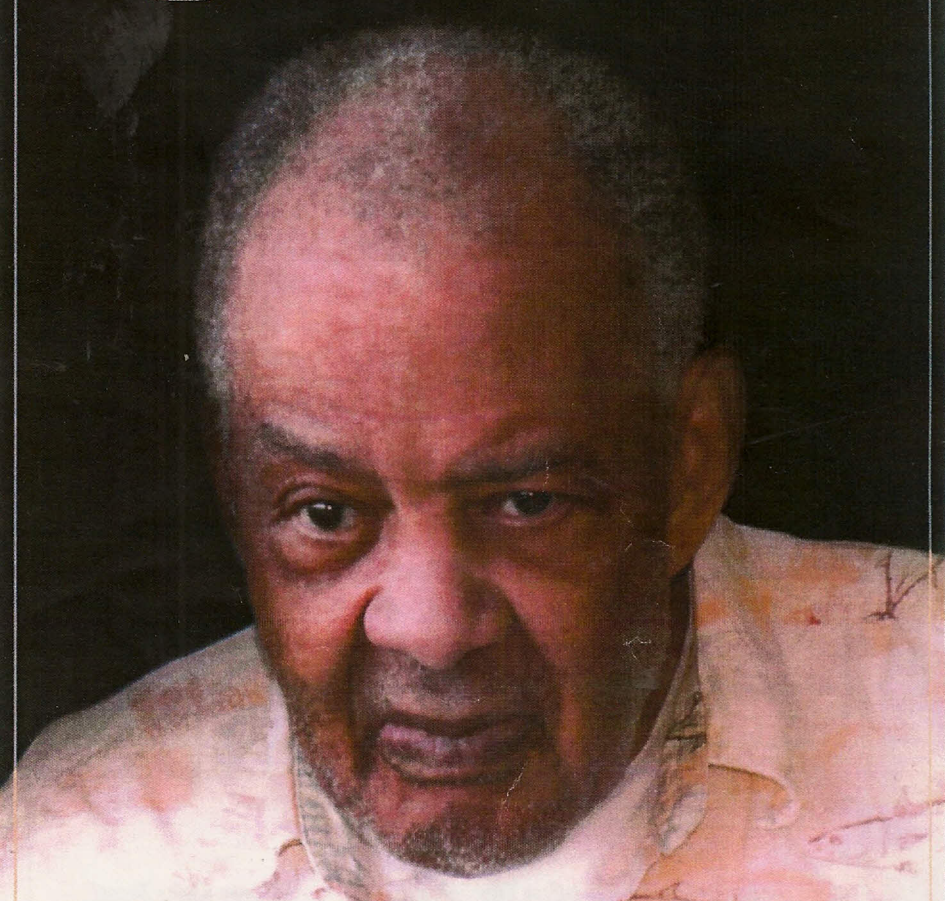


**Celebrating
The Life Of**



Herbert H. Spencer 1922 - 2009

**10:00 a.m. Saturday
October 17, 2009 at
Bethel**

**African Methodist Episcopal Church
Springfield, MA**

Professional services by



388 St. James Avenue, Springfield, Ma.

Obituary

Herbert Hollis Spencer, 87, of Holyoke, MA, passed away on Monday, October 12, 2009, at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home in Holyoke, Massachusetts.

He was born on July 16, 1922 to the late Ernest and Ada (Markham) Spencer of Wesson, Mississippi. He was one of ten children. Herbert attended the local schools and assisted on the family farm. He also worked at W.G. Avery Auto Body Shop before being drafted into the U.S. Army in December, 1942. Herbert served in the European theater for 23 months, driving ammunition and supplies to the front lines. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

After the war, Herbert moved to Buffalo, New York and worked at the Buffalo Steel Company until his health failed. He was a patient at the Buffalo (NY) State Hospital and later, at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Canandigua, New York. In 1973, he moved back to Buffalo where he lived with his mother and sister, Eunice Smith. Herbert joined Bethel A.M.E. Church in Buffalo. In 1987, Herbert moved with his sister, Eunice, to Springfield, MA and transferred his membership to Bethel A.M.E. Church in Springfield. In 1999, Herbert became a resident of the Holyoke Soldiers Home. Friends and staff at the Soldiers Home will remember that Herbert loved to sing. They often commented on what a beautiful voice he had.

Herbert is pre-deceased by his parents, and his brothers, Ivan, Arthur, and Ernest. He is survived by his brother Robert of San Antonio, Texas, his brother Percy and wife Loretha of Los Angeles, California, his brother Othelda and wife Mildred of Chicago, Illinois, his brother John and wife Betty of Columbus, Ohio; his sister Mary E. Greer of Chicago and his sister Eunice Smith of Wilbraham. He also leaves his dear friend, Hosea Kelly of Springfield and a host of nieces and nephews to cherish his memory. The family wishes to thank the staff at the Holyoke Soldiers Home, especially the staff on the Comfort Care Unit, for their loving care of Herbert.