



Charles Spencer

Services will be held later this week at the Aptos Cemetery for Charles W. Spencer, a former postmaster in Aptos, who died Saturday at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz. He was 82.

Mr. Spencer was postmaster for his native Aptos from 1935 to 1972. He was 28 at the time of his appointment, the youngest postmaster in the United States at that time. During his tenure the post office grew from an 18-mile rural route to seven city routes and one rural route.

An Aptos resident, he served five times as state president of the California branch of the National League of District Postmasters and one year as Western Regional Director, representing seven states.

He was also a member of the Santa Cruz County Fair Board for 30 years and had served on the entertainment committee for many years. He was a past secretary for the Aptos Chamber of Commerce, a director of the Rio del Mar Improvement Association and a charter member of Monterey Bay Post 778 of the American Legion and the Cabrillo Lions Club.

Mr. Spencer attended Watsonville High School, where he was student body president. He earned a teaching credential at San Jose State University. He was an Army veteran of World War II, having served with the Army postal department.

He also had a lifelong interest in athletics. He played on his high school and college teams and in Santa Cruz city league basketball. He helped organize a number of teams, including the Aptos Dons basketball and baseball teams and the Deer Park Tavern softball team, which won the county title three years in a row. He was also a coach in the Capitola Little League for several years.

He leaves his wife, Maurine; two sisters, Irene Toney, of Aptos, and Anita Jellison, of Rancho Cordova; and two nieces and a nephew. His brother, Glenn J., and his parents Joseph C. and Annie Dorsey Spencer, died earlier.

Service times are pending at Davis Memorial Chapel.