

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: George Arthur Spencer

Rank: Private

Service Number: 4/7027

Date of Death: 18th May 1915

Age:

Regiment/Service: 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment

Award: Mons Star, British War and Victory medals

Grave/Memorial Reference: V. B. 23.

Cemetery/Memorial: PONT-DU-HEM MILITARY CEMETERY, LA GORGUE, FRANCE

UK Cemetery/Memorial: Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Hitchin
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)

Pre War:



He was born in Hitchin and was living there when he enlisted in Hertford. His home address was 23, St. Andrew's Rd, Hitchin.

Wartime Service:

George received the Regimental Number 4/7027. He volunteered in August 1914 and went to France a short while later. He was engaged in the Retreat from Mons, at Loos and at Ypres where he was wounded. He was killed in action serving with the 2nd Battalion although he seems to have served in various Battalions of the Regiment.

The Battalion had moved into trenches known as the 'Indian Village' sector at the Battle of Festubert and an attack began at dawn on the German trenches. The assault had to begin from a communications trench which meant crossing 50 yards of completely open country resulting in many men being killed or wounded. High explosive, shrapnel and machine-gun fire were responsible for most of the casualties.

He was buried in Plot 5, Row B, Grave 23 in Pont-du-Hem Military Cemetery, La Gorgue Nord in France. His headstone states that he was killed on the 8th May.

Additional Information:

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne
David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

