

# THREE FARNINGHAM BROTHERS SPIER GO TO WAR -

## ONLY ONE RETURNS

**Born:** Alton, Hampshire - Herbert John Spier in 1887, Walter Ephraim Spier in 1889, Percy Harold Spier in 1891.

**Died:**

26 September 1917 - **Herbert John Spier** missing, presumed dead, probably during the Battle of Menin Road or Polygon Wood.

25 October 1918 - **Walter Ephraim Spier** missing, presumed dead, in advance to victory in Picardy and Artois.

1964 - **Percy Harold Spier** in Dartford.

**Home:** In 1911 Mill Lane, Eynsford; by 1914 3 Mary Villas, Farningham.

**Family:** Parents, James Spier, carpenter at Paper Mill, first at Alton and then at Eynsford, and Sarah (Gilliam). The brothers came from a family of 8, of which 5 were sons.

**Enlisted:** Herbert John (a house painter living with an older brother in Walderslade) in 1914, aged 27; Walter Ephraim in 1915, aged 26; Percy Harold unknown.

**Served:**

**Herbert John Spier, M.M.** - L/10035 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment - Served in the Battle of Mons in 1914 where he was wounded. He went on

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to serve in Belgium. At some stage he was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry and bravery. **Herbert John Spier** has no known grave, but is commemorated on the memorial in Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium. Aerial view shown below.

**Walter Ephraim Spier** - 38119 8<sup>th</sup>  
Battalion of the East Surrey  
Regiment  
Served from 1916-1918 on the  
Western Front, including the Battle of  
Passchendaele.



**Walter Ephraim Spier** has no known grave, but is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Shown left.

**Percy Harold Spier** - Rifleman 17/2020 16<sup>th</sup>  
Regiment of the Irish Rifles came home.