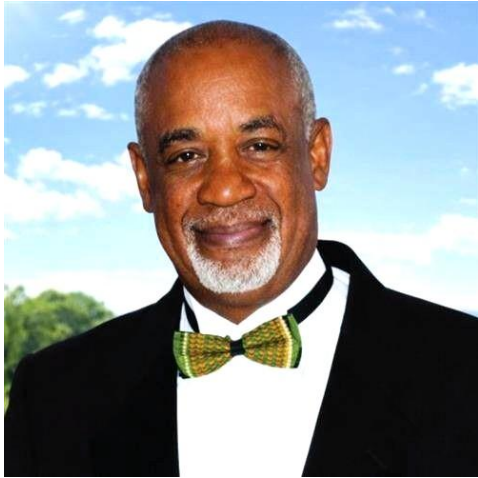


Floyd Rudolph Spears obituary



Floyd Rudolph Spears, 90, a retired Foreign Service officer with USAID, died on January 31, 2026, in Miami, Fla. Mr. Spears was born on September 5, 1935, in Clinton, La., to Frank and Olivia Spears.

In 1979 he graduated from the University of Maryland with an MA in urban management. Mr. Spears joined the Foreign Service with USAID in 1968. He held executive officer posts in Vietnam, Senegal, Ghana, Uganda, Nigeria, and Jamaica until his retirement in 1996.

Settling in Miami in 2003, Mr. Spears remained active in retirement, holding contract positions as an executive officer in Bangladesh, Ghana, and Liberia until 2010.

Mr. Spears loved entertaining, traveling, reading, keeping up with international and local affairs, watching various sports, and, in earlier years, playing tennis avidly. He also served as president of the board of his homeowner's association in Miami, Fla., and volunteered at local polling stations.

Mr. Spears will be remembered for his kindness, calm demeanor, supportive nature, and dedication to family and many friends around the world, with whom he maintained close ties throughout his life.

Mr. Spears was predeceased by two of his children, Floyd Jr. and Therese Spears. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl; son Brian; sisters Hilda and Velma (and spouse, Manuel); brother, Frank (and spouse, Jean); and six grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Published in *The Foreign Service Journal*, July-August 2026 edition, p. 76