

TOP LOCAL STORIES OF 2013 Deaths

Remembering those who had an unforgettable impact

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Staff reports

Those who died in 2013 who left a mark on the community include:

• **BENJAMIN M. RACUSIN**, 98, of Hilton Head, died Aug. 11. He was elected the Town of Hilton Head Island's first mayor in 1983, following a decade of work toward incorporation and leadership roles in many community organizations. After retiring to the island in 1971, he became a member of 40 different organizations, supporting causes ranging from health and the arts to youth and humanitarian efforts. He headed the Hilton Head Community Association and the Island Emergency Council prior to town govern-

ment. He played a leadership role when a barge knocked the bridge to the island out of service for six weeks in 1974. He received the Alice Glenn Doughtie Good Citizenship Award, and Town Council chambers are named for him.