

Obituaries

Benjamin Driessen

Benjamin "Dugar" Driessen, 83, of Hilton Head Island died Wednesday, Dec. 17, at Beaufort Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Driessen was born April 8, 1920, on Hilton Head, son of the late Victoria Green Driessen and Willie Driessen.

He attended public schools on Hilton Head and in Beaufort County. He was the first black deputy sheriff on Hilton Head and the first black island postal worker who delivered mail to Daufuskie Island. He also was a deputized bail bondsman for Hilton Head and Beaufort County area and was a life member of the International Free Accepted Modern Masons and Order of Eastern Star. He was a member of First African Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a son, Willie Driessen.

Survivors include his wife, Carrie B. Driessen of Hilton Head; two sons, Robert Driessen of Hardeeville and Benjamin Driessen Jr. of Hilton Head; five daughters, Geneva Driessen, Rosa Driessen, Delores Driessen and Louise Driessen, all of Hilton Head, and Pamela Grant of Anchorage, Alaska; a stepdaughter, Estella Hamilton of Hardeeville; a brother, Jacob Driessen of Hilton Head; a sister, Rosalee Driessen of Hilton Head; 17 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and other relatives.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at First African Baptist Church on Hilton Head. Burial will follow in the Amelia Cemetery. The body will lie in state from 10 a.m. Tuesday until the service at the church.

Marshel's Wright-Donaldson Home for Funerals is in charge of arrangements.