

Joe, Robert, and Gary Hogeboom

As you head to Newaygo from Bills Lake, you pass the State of Michigan Scenic Overlook and stairway leading to the Muskegon River known as Thornapple. You have undoubtedly noticed the sign: **Honoring Robert Hogeboom.**

But what you may not know is that *Joe* Hogeboom had a cottage on Bills Lake in the Apache-Blackhawk. Bob was Joe's son



What you also probably don't know is that Gary, Joe's grandson was not only a star quarterback for Grand Rapids Northview High School but then went on to play for Central Michigan where he led the team to two successful seasons culminating in a conference championship.

Gary was then drafted by the Dallas Cowboys and played with them for six years before joining the Indianapolis Colts for the next three. He then bounced to the Phoenix Cardinals for a year followed by a single year stint with the Washington

Redskins. To be sure, he had plenty of starts for these teams and there were numerous+ highlights (You can find them on Youtube).

Although Gary retired to become a real estate developer and landscaper in his birthplace town of



Grand Haven, he came out of relative obscurity to join a CBS reality show called *Survivor: Guatemala* under the pseudonym of Gary Hawk. He didn't want anyone to know about his football past although a lady from his "tribe" figured it out but kept his secret.

Joe is to be found on the 1957 list of cottages owners. Ron Madsen, long-time resident in that neck of the Bills Lake woods can testify that Gary enjoyed weekends here. That means that a future NFL quarterback spent time at Bills Lake.

Joe, an installer for Michigan Bell, was one of several long-time residents of Bills Lake who once worked for the utility. They include El Deschaine, Jerry Deschaine, Tom Birdsall, and Bill Steenland.