

By Russ Pankonin

The Imperial Republican

Little did Sid Harchelroad know that when Harchelroad Motors of Imperial and Wauneta donated a 2013 Chevy Corvette to the Cattlemen's Ball that the car would come back to Imperial.

That's exactly what happened. When the winning ticket was drawn at the June 8 event in Paxton, it belonged to Char Wallin of Imperial.

After being handed the ticket to announce the winner, Harchelroad told the crowd of more than 4,000 that it was one of his customers.

That got a lot of hearts going in people from Imperial, Wauneta and Grant at the ball, Harchelroad said.

Char Wallin picked up her new car Monday morning at Harchelroad Motors in Imperial.

She said she was in "utter disbelief" when she heard she had won the car.

She and her husband Steve had planned to go the ball but decided to stay home for other family obligations.

So when her friends started texting her to let her know she had won the car, she thought it was a prank.

A friend called to tell her she won and she still didn't believe it. Then Harchelroad called Steve to let them know they'd won.

Then another friend called Char so she decided this was more than just a prank.

She said there was a lot of screaming and dancing around going on after she realized she had really won the car.

A maximum of 1,000 tickets were available for the drawing. Char said she and Steve had purchased two tickets.

She said the money went to a good cause—cancer research. It was especially meaningful as well since her niece has just completed treatment for leukemia.

Not only are the Wallins a customer of Harchelroads but they are now a two-Corvette family.

Char said she gave the rights to their other Corvette to Steve. He said they plan to keep both cars for now. Even though they'll have to pay some taxes for the car, "I can't complain about that," he said.

In honor of Gene Harchelroad

Sid and Brian Harchelroad donated the car to aid the efforts of the Cattlemen's Ball, to raise money for cancer research in Nebraska.

The donation was made in honor of their dad, Gene, who passed away in 2002 after a five-year battle with lung cancer.

The Corvette is a 60th Anniversary Limited Edition Grand Sport Coupea valued at \$75,000.