

THIRD ONES A CHARM or CAN ANYONE HAVE TOO MANY CORVETTES

I had wanted a 2004 COMMEMORATIVE EDITION Z06 ever since I first saw one! I thought that it was completely out of reach. The fact that there were so few made and the money they cost, I thought there was no way. About a year ago, when the prices started coming down I started to get a little more serious about my search. And search I did! Any information I could get my hands on about these cars and where, how much, prices, conditions, anything I could find out about these Z06's I sucked up like a vacuum!

This went on for a while and I just couldn't find what I was looking for. I hadn't been looking for some time when one night I got the bug out of nowhere. The very first thing I did was EBay and BAM!!!!!!!!!!!!!! There's one for sale with 704 miles and I don't believe my eyes! I call Unique Corvettes in Florida the next day. Jason tells me that they have a deposit already and they would call me if it doesn't work out.

I was pretty disappointed and I thought that was it. My phone rings an hour later and it's Jason, the deal fell through and if I want it I can have it for her offer! In our conversation, Jason tells me that he knows Lance Miller, in two seconds I'm on the phone with Lance. I want to know as much as I can on this guy. Lance tells me he's straight up and that I can't go wrong on this car. I can't tell you the feeling that night. I had done so much homework and now it was finally going to pay off! We made the deal and they offered to haul the car to Carlisle in two weeks. I contacted Lance and said he would put the Z06 in his garage until I got there on that Thursday. Everything was set for delivery.

Marion, Andy, Alex, Barry and I left on Thursday morning for Carlisle. It seemed it was the longest ride to Carlisle ever! I couldn't wait to get there and finally see this car. We got there and all I wanted was to call Lance and go over to his place. When I finally did, he was busy and said he needed about an hour. How long do you think that hour was? I had waited all this time; I figured one hour won't kill me, HA! Lance calls and says come over and we can't get there fast enough.

What a feeling to walk up to the car of your dreams and realize it's finally yours! I wouldn't even back it out of the garage, I made Lance do it.



Lance and Jason made it a memorable occasion signing the dealer brochure and just hanging out with us all. What a thrill it was!! I am still not sure I remember everything from that day. At least we took a lot of pictures.

We drove it about three hundred yards to where we had parked all the cars for the weekend. Not far enough, but it would have to do for now.



Friday came and went and I was still pinching myself. I HAVE A Z06!!!!!!!!!!!! Saturday is when the Celebrity Choice Awards are picked. About two o'clock I saw Lance and Judy Miller coming down the aisle towards us. Judy tells Marion and I the story of ordering the exact same Z06. It would be the last car Chip Miller would ever order. He became ill with Amyloidosis and Judy was the one who had to call Kerbeck and cancel the order. Chip passed away shortly thereafter. With tears in her eyes and Marion's, she graciously chose my car as her Celebrity Choice for 2008.



I can't begin to tell you how I felt that day. If you remember last year at Carlisle how bad it was with the storms, and Marion and I moving from hotel to hotel, and this year how great it was for us. To have the Z06 delivered there and everyone so happy and then to get an award like that, PRICELESS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The Miller family is one of the nicest and most gracious people I have ever met in my entire life. It is truly an honor to call them my friends. They made it one of the best weekends ever. Thanks so much!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Well, we did the parade and received our award on Sunday and headed home. I put one hundred miles on that car that day and enjoyed every one! This car is everything I thought it was and more. We have a few shows under our belt with it now and it seems to be well received. Rotors are about the only thing I'm going to do. I really want to keep it as original as I can. Why mess it up? I'll finish this with a note I got from Lance Miller the night I made the deal on the car, it meant a lot to me.

Michael

You know something... it always feels like there's nothing better than when you purchase something that you've had your heart set on for a long period of time and then you actually pull the trigger. Of course, the anticipation of actually getting it into your hands is an incredible feeling as well. We both know all too well that our health, family and friends are much more important than anything you could ever purchase- we're both fortunate there. But the part of fulfilling your dream with a purchase of something you've always wanted brings a serious joy not only to you but your loved ones and friends- good for you! I'm thrilled to hear about your newest addition, I'm eager to check out the new ride!

Life is so darn precious- I'm really happy for you and your family. It's amazing what a Corvette can do to the people that own them, better yet it's great to meet the people that own 'em. I'm honored to know you Michael. My adrenalin is pumpin' I can't imagine how you feel. Good luck sleeping!?!?!?

Congrats,
Lance

PS. I was more than happy to help you- heck, you know the market better than I do. Congrats again
LANCE MILLER
CARLISLE EVENTS SENIOR MANAGER



ENJOY THE RIDE, MICHAEL