

CALENDAR FACES OF VAIL FOOD IN THE AREA LIFESTYLE OUTDOORS LOCAL EXPERT ADVICE REAL ESTATE COUPONS ABOUT CONTACT ~



Q Ever wonder who wins the big prizes in raffle contests and sweepstakes? Meet one of the lucky TMC Mega Raffle winners – Carole Passananti.

Carole was one of the top 10 appreication winners to walk away with a luxury weekend getaway for two to a destination of choice. Her and her husband won a two night, three day trip including airfare to The Hyatt Regency Resort and Casino in Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

"We finally won something!!" exclaims Carole.

The prize couldn't have come at a better time. As young newlyweds, the couple did not have the means to afford a honeymoon. Soon after they get married, they welcomed their first of six children into their family and "...life got busy." Now, they have 16 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

This May, Carole and her husband are celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary. When asked about taking this trip as their overdue honeymoon, Carole says, "we figure it's about time."

Carole and her husband moved from Chicago to the Tucson area in 1961. The main attraction? They wanted to live by the Tucson Medical Center.

Following the birth of their fourth daughter, the doctors advised the couple that a drier climate

Q would help manage her severe asthma. More specifically, the doctors recommended Tucson Medical Center as they were connected with the Allergy and Asthma Foundation. So, in November of 1968 the family packed their bags into a borrowed car, loaded up their five children, and drove away with only \$500 to their name.

Today, their daughter is doing well. Both Carole and her daughter receive Zolair shots at TMC every two weeks to keep their asthma under control.

With their winnings, the couple is thrilled to have the chance to celebrate their marriage and her health. "We have never seen Lake Tahoe, so are looking forward to the scenery, resort, boating, and fine dining."