

One-of-a-kind auction attracts huge crowd

The Pfeifer family's original 1915 Timothy Eaton's catalogue home stands as a reminder of the pioneer spirit of hard work and husbandry in which they were raised. It is on their homestead south of Saskatoon where brothers Ken and Vern ran the family farm for decades.

They were brought up with four siblings by their parents who had immigrated from North Dakota in the early 1900s. It has been a Pfeifer farm since, including the depression years of the dirty '30s. A great deal of sweat and tears went into the early days of the operation where they raised beef, chicken and pork.

Eventually the farm was passed to Ken and Vern who ran a dairy herd, Hereford cattle and grain farming operation. They kept their equipment and buildings in like-new condition for decades, and when they decided to sell off their equipment it caused quite a stir in the Western Canadian farming community. Unfortunately, Vern passed away in the fall of 2012, but not before he and Ken had chosen Kramer Auctions Ltd. to handle the auction.

The two have been highly respected members of the farming community and were always favourite faces at livestock sales or auctions over the years. "Everyone enjoyed visiting with them, together they were a couple of colourful guys," said Brendan Kramer of Kramer Auctions Ltd.

Ken was on hand to see the rows of equipment sell at the auction, which was held on April 27, 2013. Based out of North Battleford, SK, Kramer Auctions fielded a high volume of calls from across Canada and the US on this auction. "Their entire line of equipment was absolutely in show-room condition. You don't see that pride of owner-ship very often," Kramer said. The Pfeifer auction was host to over 3000 people on auction day.

Whether the vehicles and tractors were bought in the 1960s or two years ago, they were pristine. The equipment was lined up for auction with shining paint, perfect upholstery, mechanically sound and without a dent or scratch. The dairy equipment still hangs from stalls in the barn, the floor spotless and each cow's name is painted up above. "We handle a lot of nice auctions in a year but this was exceptional. Buyers received excellent value for their money. Auctions like this are few and far between" Kramer said.

Established in 1949, Kramer Auctions Ltd is one of the nation's leading auction firms and today is recognized as an industry leader. One of the longest-running independent auction firms, Kramer remains 100 per cent family owned and operated. The secret to their success at Kramer Auctions lies in the pride of service. They are large enough to serve the needs of all types of auctions, yet involved enough to offer personal service. They combine modern auction methods with the old-fashioned promise of an honest handshake.

Their staff has grown up around the auction business, and they are trained professionals who know their business, their customers and equipment. Kramer's have built years of trust and confidence with both buyers and sellers in the farming sector across Western Canada. Kramer Auctions Ltd. handles agricultural and real estate auctions of all sizes. Each sale is handled with the honesty and integrity that has built the successful business of today.



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Ken Pfeifer (left) and his late brother, Vern



Original 1915 T. Eaton's catalogue home



1987 Chev 70 Grain Truck



1966 Chevrolet 50 Grain Truck



John Deere tractors received much bidding attention.



1994 NH 575 Square Baler



Auction attracted huge crowd from across Western Canada and northern U.S.